



Christ Church Coll: Ox:



Canterbury Minster.



Trinn: Colledge Camb:



Counse of Rivers plundered  
page 11.

MERCURIUS  
RUSTICUS.



S<sup>t</sup> John Lucas house plundered  
Page 1



S<sup>t</sup> Rich. Myshall house plundered  
page 21.



At night for the young women  
Epitaph page 4. 6.

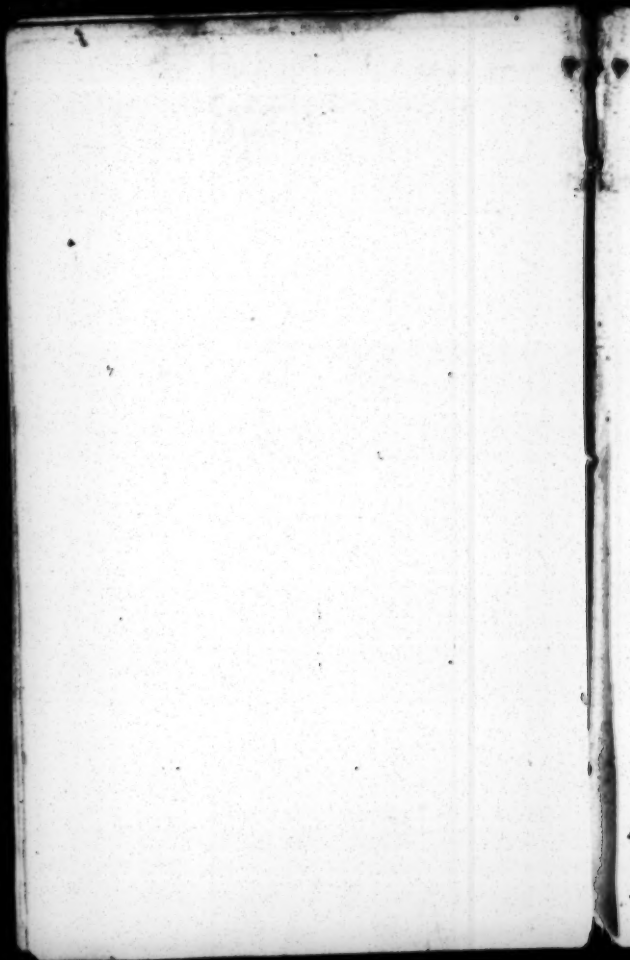


At James a Min: carried on a  
Boare. page 31.



Windsor Castle destroyed by a  
Ledy. page 41.







# *Anglia Ruina:*

OR,

## ENGLANDS RUINE,

Represented in the Barbarous, and Sacrilegious Outrages of the Sectaries of this Kingdome, committed upon the Lives, Consciences and Estates of all His Maj: Loyal Subjects in generall; but more particularly upon the Churches, Colledges, Clergie, and Scholars of the same.

Containing two briefe Catalogues of such Heads and Fellowes of Colledges in the University of Cambridge, and other Learned and Pious Divines, within the City of London, as have been ejected, Plundered, Imprisoned, or Banished, for their *Constancie in the Protestant Religion, and Loyalty to their Sovereigne.*

*Wherunto is added,*

A Chronologie of the time and place of all the Battails, Sieges, Conflicts, and other remarkable passages which have happened betwixt His Majesty and the Parliament; with a Catalogue of such Persons of Quality, as have been slain on either party, from Novemb. 3. 1640. till the 25. of March, 1647.

AMOS 9. 11.

*I will raise up the Tabernacle of David that is falne, and close up the breaches thereof, and I will raise up his ruines, and I will build it as in the dayes of old.*

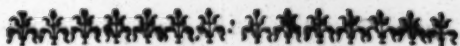
ANNO 1647.

COLL. EMMAN. CANT.  
E Dono  
JOH. BROWNE S. T. B.  
Olim ejusdem Coll. Socii.  
A. D. 1736.

W. 6. 76



*College Commemorative  
Table*



## The Preface.

**W**Hen the sinnes of this Kingdome were ripe for punishment, the Divine Justice permitted a great part of it to be besotted with Discontents, either wholly causelesse, or such as His Maj. was pleased to remedy with Grants so unmeasurably gracious, as could not otherwise be justified, then by their importunity that demanded them, and His Majesties Royall tenderneſſe of his Subjects peace and safety.

These grants were so far from satisfying those, whose broken fortunes and boundlesse desires would not permit them to live without a Civill War, that they made of them no other use, then thereby to strengthen themselves to demand more: till at last they broke out into most unnaturall Rebellion.

The people alwayes apt to cherish murmures and invectives against their Princes, and now grown wanton with the fruits of a long peace, incline to Abners mind, and thinke the Warre (which yet they knew not) but a

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*short. Therefore with a great facility they embrace the designe : and the baits to cover the Hooks with, are the preservation of Religion, and the vindication of liberty. And howsoever they cannot reconcile their practise with Gods command, which under paine of damnation forbids all Subjects to resist their King: yet they are so wedded to that interest which they Challenge in Religion, and Liberty, that for Gods command, if they cannot untie the knot, they resolve to cut it. Doe but assure them that the forbidden fruit will make them as Gods, and they will eat it though it be forbidden : doe but perswade them that to take up armes against their Soveraigne is the way to secure their Religion and Liberty, and they make bold with God for once to choose their owne way for so good an end.*

*From so desperate Resolution, had they had but Morall justice, they might have beene kept back by the improbability of those calumnies whereby His Majestie was traduced, as intending to alter Religion and infringe their Liberties.*

*Or had Religion (to which they doe so*  
Zea-

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*Zealously pretend) had that potent influence upon them, it might have taught them, that Religion cannot be defended by transgressing Gods commands, which are the Rule of it.*

*But if nothing else, yet even regard to their owne pretensions, the defence of Religion and Liberty, should have wrought in them a detestation of Rebellion, which is so contrary to both.*

*For as an eye had to Gods dominion over us should exact obedience to his commands, though never so much to our prejudice: So the meditation of his infinite goodnesse ought to win it from us, because his commands enioyne us onely what is for our good, if we could see it.*

*He would not have forbidden Subjects to defend Religion against their King by force of Armes, but that he knew as Rebels can be no friends to Religion, so it gaines love & admiration by the innocent patience of those that professe it; whereas Blood-shed, Force, and Rapine, the fruits of Rebellion) procure Hatred or Hypocrisie.*

*And for Liberty, it is for the good of*

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*Mankind, to forbid the assertion of it by Subjects Armes taken up against their Prince : both because that pretence would otherwise be used by those that have a designe to make the abused people their owne slaves, and because Rebellion doth more violate the Subjects liberty, then is morally possible for the worst Prince in times of peace to doe.*

*This truth was knowne before by speculation to a few, whose endeavours to insuse it into the distempered peoples minds, had the fate of Cassandraes predictions, to hit the truth and want belief, till these sad times have at last verified it by a costly experience.*

*That this may be more universally beneficiall, you have too plentifull a harvest of Instances collected in the ensuing Relations : wherein may evidently be seene, that this War which the multitude was so fond of, as the onely meanes to preserve Religion and Liberty, hath bene the utter ruine of them both.*

*Here you shall find these great pretenders to Religion, Suppressing that which themselves confesse to be Divine Truth, Debarring poore prisoners the comfort of joyning  
their*

## The Preface.

their prayers together, enforcing men to take Oaths of blind Obedience to whatsoever they should afterwards command them; turning out Clergiemen above all exception, and placing most scandalous and insufficient wretches in their roomes, darting from their invenomed mouthes most horrid Blasphemies against our Lord and Saviour, abusing the service of God, and profaning not only the Forme of it, the Booke of Common Prayer, which now they have utterly extirpated, but even Gods owne Word, the holy Bible, which they pretend to reverence.

Here shall you behold them not onely (like those Canes Sepulchrales) violating the bones & ashes of the dead, so make the world know that they beleeve what some of their fellowes openly professe, that of those sometime living Temples of the holy Chost, there shall be no Resurrection, but exercising their fury on the Charches of God; which they have defaced with barbarous rudenesse, defiled with more then beastly nastinesse, & (as if contrary to their wont they had studied the Booke of Maccabes to find out and

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out-doe the most Heathenish wickednesses therein related) they have polluted the very Altar with their whoredomes.

Nor can these Reformers (as whose doore the profanations of the Houses of God must lye) make the world beleieve they are in earnest when they plead for Religion, whilst they deface and demolish the places where it should be taught and practised, and put out the Eyes of the most flourishing Universities of Christendome.

Then for the other point, the Subjects Liberty, the following Narrations will plainly shew that it hath not been spared by those that would be accounted the Champions of it, when the violation of it might satisfy either their Lust, their Covetousnesse, or their Cruelty.

Their Lust hath prompted them not only to threaten Rape, but with violence to attempt it, and to wound and murder those upon whom they could not effect their beastly purpose.

To satisfy their Covetousnesse, they have unmercifully robbed of their fortunes, and exposed to the extremest want, not only  
those



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those that were their opposites and able to hurt them, but those whose sexe, age and condition might have melted stones into pitty, women, children, the sicke, the aged, women in labour, and even those of their owne party.

Their Cruelty hath not contented it selfe with the murther of those they hated, but, as if they had beene the professed Schollers of that inhumane monster, whose Maxime was, Perimat Tyrannus lenis, in regno meo mors impetratur, they have insulted over the persons and lives of their fellow Subjects with most exquisite Tortures, whipt some to Death, and starved others: they have made it a Crime in some that they were neighbours to those whom they persecuted for Loyalty, & punished others for shewing them mercy: As if they would tell you, that they are not inferior to the worst of all the Primitive persecutors Dioclesian, by whose command (as Eusebius lib. 10. Chap. 8. reporteth) all charity was forbidden to those in Prison, yea even to those whom they were bound to pittie by the Law of Nature, their kindred, &c.

Nay

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Nay more, so farre hath their malice transcended all bounds: that they have done mischief where they were not invited by any benefit to themselves or any other, only for the delight they tooke in doing it, burning houses, spoyling goods, destroying Books, Evidences, and Publique Records, to the prejudice of Posterity, the disturbance of Possessions, the obstruction of Justice, and the impairing of Learning, only to make themselves Sport: They have by breaking Articles of surrender, by offering savage force to the persons of messengers for Treaty, and to the goods & houses of forraigne Ambassadors, broken the Sacred Lawes and disturbed the Commerce of Nations.

In a word, these new Physicians of State, have proved such Saitimbances to the Common wealth, & by their recipes prescribed such drugs, as have purged the Body Politique of all its Treasure, and left nothing, but Melancholly behind. This truth clearly appears in the late London Accompt, from which single Citie, they have drained 17. Millions, and it can be no small Proportion, the rest of the Kingdome beares

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beares to it : Consider next, how they dispose of the Kingdomes Treasure, in voting every Active Member a Benja. part (no lesse then 89000l. in three dayes) whilst some of those that hazarded their lives, in their Service, are forced to starve in the streets, and lye three dayes unburied, ere their Masters would vote them a Winding sheete : But these heavy burthens, must dwell upon our shoulders, for we cannot but imagine their swelling greatnesse must be maintained : If so, then which way the supplies must be raised Tacitus will truly tell us, *Aerarium ambitione exhaustum, per scelera supplendum erit*, Treasure spent Ambitiously, must be supplied by wickednesse : To the Intelligible Common wealths man, Verbum sat, say halfe a word is sufficient.

'Twas a sad Omen to this Kingdome, to have the Sunne Eclipsed, that very houre this Parlia. began ; And though it was not visible here, yet the effects have not beene clouded from our Eyes. But let the afflicted comfort themselves, *Post nubila Phæbus*, Eclipses are never perpetuall. No age was ever blest with a more pious Prince, or  
brought

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brought forth more crooked natures to perplex a righteous soule. His easie Inclinations gave their dark practises confidence to appeare in the light, and through whose yeelding clemencie (thinking like the Sunne by attracting vapours to disperse them) they (with the help of a Northern Fog) condens'd into a cloud, that first darkned, then rain'd blood over all the Land, and what number, or power, was not able to overthrow, Treachery, or Bribery, did on a suddaine ruine.

And now, in the close of all miseries; behold an action detestable beyond Expression, a misfortune, which (heightned with accumulated Injuries) deserves to be looked upon with a compassionate Eye, and a bleeding heart. Is it not a most sorrowfull object to see a King set forth to Sale? to behold Majesty to become Merchandize, and Sovereignty sold for Silver? To see a Prince weighed in a Treacherous, and perfidious Ballance, & made to turne which way Coyne shall move the Beame? to deliver him up for the same cause, Aristides was banished, Justus quia justus, and at length to Crucifie him betweene two Theeves? O high Ingratitude,

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gratitude, to ruine so great a Benefactor, when they found his hands bound up from us small offenders! Doubtlesse they are worse enemies, that surprize by Ambush, then those that fight in open field.

We read, that Wealth may choak as well as a Halter; and Judas his Bribe was the cause he became his owne Executioner. Time may manifest to the world some noted issue; for sure both parties cannot but become Bankrupts, as well those which buy deare, as those that sell cheape.

But this being an action beyond president, (the rehearsal whereof, is enough to make the most innocent and patient pen criminal) I therefore to trace it any further, but leave it to a vindictive Justice, stigmatiz'd with that brand Cicero stamps upon such another, *Perditissimi est hominis, fallere eum, qui laxus non esset, nisi credidisset*: None but the most villanous of Mankind will deceive him, that had bene safe, but for trusting.

But though I decline them, yet may I not leave my injured Sovereigne in His Sufferings, without letting the world know, how sad and weighty they are, his Infelicities sinking a deeper Impression, because thrown from so high a Spire, heretofore enjoying what Majesty could present, and now doom'd to embrace what the worst of miseries will impose: And surely the Consideration herof can-

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not but presse them the closer together. This condition strips him of those ordinary Consolations, every Peasants may enjoy. & robs him of all those Comforts that are deare unto his Soule; His Royall Consort, Children, and Friends; The last of which the Devills charity extended to allow Job, and which if they shall deny him (from whom their former Comforts flow'd) they deserve to be branded with the Character of unrepresented Impiety.

And that nothing might be wanting to fill up the measure of their Iniquity, behold another of their unparallel'd impieties, whereat Posterity will stand agast; such an one as will justify all the barbarous acts that the most savage Persecutors of the Church were ever guilty of: Yea such a one as the Lords of the Inquisition, yea the Turk himselfe would not have denied an ordinary Christian, nor our Lawes the worst of Malefactors: That a King of his Greatnesse, and piety, should be denyed a Spirituall Minister to assist him, in his Devotions; and to direct him in points of Conscience. If ever there was such a thing as Implicit Faith, they are the greatest Assertors of it, that would enforce not only their owne fellow Subjects, but even their Sovereigne King, to believe, as they believe, or else to forfeit all, both spirituals and temporals. Yes let the sufferings of the Loyall Party receive this Consolation; That

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*That these present Misfortunes cannot startle him, so as to make him warp from his first Principles, his cleare Conscience and well grounded Resolutions vndering him like a Marble Wall, that shivereth all the shafts that are shot against it.*

*But we feare we have trespassed upon the Rules of proportion, in framing too large a Portall, for so little a Fabricke: We shall therefore draw the Curtaines, and withhold you no longer from viewing the Scenes, promising in the sight of God, and remembering that Lyes are in the number of those against whom the gates of the new Jerusalem shall be shut, to deale in the ensuing stories with all candour and ingenuity, not out of a desire to render the actors of these impieties odious, or abuse the Reader either with falsehoods or uncertainties, but to report nothing but what hath bene examined and attested by men of knowne truth and integrity; And that the world may see what violent affections these Sectaries brought to these hostile acts, we shall begin with the times of peace when the King had no formidable Army to inflame their lealoufies, nor these men provoked to cruelty by any foregoing injuries; The Scene is Essex and the first man that shall be tendered to your view is Sir John Lucas.*

*Viget, Vigebit, victa vincet veritas.*

J E R. 15. 13.

Thy substance and thy treasure will I  
give to the spoile without price, and  
that for all thy sinnes, even in all  
thy borders.

da  
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MERCVRIVS RVSTICVS:  
OR,  
The Countries Complaint, &c.

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I.

*Sir John Lucas and M. Newcomin a Minister, barbarously used by the Brownists and Anabaptists of Colchester: Sir Johns house plundered, his Mother, Lady, and Sister abused, and committed to the common Gaole. The inhumane usage of Sir William Boteler in Kent, his house plundered, and his servants tortured, &c.*

**O**N Monday Aug. 22. 1642. Sir John Lucas intended with some Horse and Armes, to begin his journey towards the North to wait upon the King; which purpose of his being on Saturday by a treacherous servant discovered to *John Langley* of Colchester Grocer, and Captain of the Train Band; He, with *Henry Barrington* Brewer, and Alderman of the Town, spent the next day being Sunday, in riding to Coggeshall, Bocking, Nayntree, Halstead, & other Towns of their own Faction, to communicate to them the knowledge of it, and invite them with strong guards of muskets, to beset the wayes, & intercept him in his journey, & did also (by the assistance of the Major) set a guard of Colchester Train-Band,

band, on Sunday night about his house. Sir *Iohn Lucas* intended to begin his journey early by one or two a clocke on Monday morning, supposing he might so passe with most privacy and no opposition, but the backe gate at which he thought to issue out was no sooner opened, but a strong guard from under a hedge present themselves, and one of them discharg'd his musket as a Warning-piece to the Towne, where the Alarme is presently taken, the Drum strooke up and the whole Towne raysed, The Volunteers (of which there were 400 or 500 then in Towne gathered to serve under the Earle of *Essex* and Lord *Say*) brought up the Beacon, by direction of *Dam Cole* Alderman, fired, & Horsemen into all parts sent forth to call in the Country against the Cavaliers in Sir *Iohn Lucas* house.

The house is presently beset with at least 1000 people, and two pieces of Ordnance are brought to make a Battery; at last they rushed into the house, and the first man they seize upon is *M. Newcamin*, Parson of *S. Trinitie* Parish in *Colchester*; they teare his clothes off his back, beat him with their Cudgels and Halberts, and with infinite exclamations, carry him in triumph through the chief streets of the Towne; by the way entring into a wild but very serious consideration, not whether he should dye (for that they had resolved at first) but to what death to put him; one votes drowning, another stoning, another bids beat out his braines. At length having consulted with Alderman *Cole*, they carry him to the common Gaole, commanding the Gaoler to put him in the strong hold, (a place provided for the most desperate Malefactors) affirming they would soone returne to take further order with him. There he remained till one a clock, being then removed to another chamber. They now return to their fellows who were searching Sir *Iohn Lucas*'s house, some twentie of them rusht into the Ladies Chamber, laid hands upon her, set a sword to her breast, requiring her to tell where the Armes and Cavaliers were. The Horse and Arms are soon found

## Or, the Countries Complaint.

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found and seized on by the Major, who sends the Armes to the Towne-hall, the Horse to an lane to be there kept on Sir *John Lucas's* cost, till they could be sent to the Parliament. The people lay hands on Sir *John Lucas* his Lady and Sister, & carry them attended with Swords, Gunns, & Halberts to the common Gaole. Last of all, they bring forth his Mother with the like or greater insolency, who being faint and breathlesse, hardly obtained leave to rest her selfe in a Shop by the way; yet this leave was no sooner obtained, but the rest of that rude rabble threatened to pull down the house, unlesse they thrust her out, being by this meanes forced to depart from thence. A Countryman (whom the Alarme had summoned to this worke) espies her, and pressing with his Horse through the crowd, struck at her head with his Sword so heartily, that if an Halbert had not crossed the blow, both her sorrowes & her journey had there found an end. Two Gentlewomen (one of which had long been sick) by flight escaped their fury, but their most wel-wishing neighbours dared not to be knowne to receive them into their house, the people threatening to burne that house that gave them entertainment. Having secured the Master, they now begin to Plunder the house, all is prize that comes to hand, Money, Plate, Jewels, Linen, Woollen, Brasse, Pewter, &c. A few houres disrobe the house of that rich furniture that had adorned it many years. The Major & Aldermen standing by all this while, but either not able, or not willing to conjure downe the devil which themselves had raised up. All the servants they could meet with they bring to prison, they laid hands on *J. Brown* (one who had bin a servant to the family from the time of Sir *John Lucas's* Grandfather) they bind him to a tree, set a Musket to his breast, & a sword to his throat, and tye lighted matches between his fingers, and *Jo. Furley* (a yong pragmaticall boy) examines him concerning his Masters Intentions, Horles, Money, &c. but especially concerning *M. Newcomin*, whether he had not given an Oath of

secrecy? Whether he were not to ride a great Horse? whether he were not habited in a Buffe jerkin & velvet coat? &c. Feare easily prompts the old man to answer what he thought would give content, Out of his Examination the Major frames an Information against Sir *John & M Newcomin*, not forgetting to relate the good service he had done, the Horse and Armes he had taken, but withall implying, how miserably the house was plundered by the zealous people, adding in his Letters (& that very truly) That he could doe no more then a child among them, with these Letters he presently dispatcheth a Post to the House of Commons.

About one a clocke a new Alarm is raised, that 200 armed Horsemen are discovered in a vault at Sir *J. Lucas's*, That they had killed nine men already, and were issuing forth to destroy the Towne. The shops are shut up in an instant, and the multitude throng downe thither to take or kill these Cavaliers. And because they find none there, they now spend their rage upon the house, they batter down the doores & wals, beat down the windows, teare his Evidences, deface his Walks and Gardens, doe any thing that may doe mischief. From thence they go to his Park, pull down his Pales, kill his Deere, drive away his Cattell. And to shew that their rage will know no bounds, & that nothing is so sacred or venerable which they dare not to violate, they breake into Saint *Giles* his Church, open the Vault where his Ancestours were buried, and with Pistols, Swords, and Halberts, transfixe the Coffins of the dead.

And now the Majors care begins to shew it selfe, he sets a Guard upon the house that no hurt should be done unto it, yet that Guard suffered 100 *l.* worth of corn, (which at first was neglected as contemptible luggage) to be carried out, and the most of it to their owne houses. Another guard he sets upon the Prison, lest the Prisoners should be assaulted by the people who were so much incensed against them,

them, though it had bin fit to see some honest men to guard them from those guardians, who were as forward as the people to drinke their blood.

On Thursday comes down Sir *Thomas Barrington* and *M. Grimston*, as a Committee from the House, who coming into the market place before the Prison-doore (the Town-Hall not able to receive the least part of the multitude) there published two Orders from the House, one wherein Sir *John Lucas* and his adherents were proclaimed guilty of high Treason for intending to assist the King. Another, wherein thanks were given the people for the good service they had done, yet they were told withall, that their act of Plundering was against the sense of the House. Some of the agents in that work, produced a Printed Order of Parliament (not heard of before among honest men) by which they justified what they had done; Sir *Thomas Barrington* replied that it was a false and faigned Order, contrived by the malignant party to render the House odious, and very lovingly besought the people to do so no more. And indeed the next weeks Diurnall tells us, that upon occasion of the outrageous plundering in Essex, *It was Ordered that thence forward none should Plunder but those that were authorized by the House to doe it.*

Friday was designed for the carrying up of the Traytors (Sir *John Lucas* and *Newcomin*) for whom there was one Messenger come from the Black-Rodde, and another from the Serjeant at Armes, (for the Ladies were declared no prisoners after they had lyen in the common Gaole foure dayes.) When the time of their departure was come, many thousands of people were gathered together (both of Towne and Countrey) a Drumme being struck up to give them warning. The Coaches are come, and the Prisoners called forth; onely *M. Newcomin* they dared not carry forth as yet, because the people threatened to teare him in peeces; as assuredly they had done, had

not M. *Grimston's* scare beene very great, who placing a Court of Guard on each side of Sir *Thomas Barrington's* Coach from the prison doore, brought him forth unexpectedly and put him into the Coach; the people then not daring to strike or stone him, least mischief intended him should light on Sir *Thomas Barrington*.

The Coach being guarded thus a mile out of Towne, they passed on, suffering no other strokes but those of the tongue (bitter Curses and revilings) and those they met withall abundantly, at *Chelmsford, Rowford*, and in all the Townes whither the newes of their Treason had gone before them, Sir *John Lucas's* captive Horses being carryed in triumph with the Coach all the way; at *London* Sir *Thomas Barrington* sent the Horses to the *Red Lyon*, the Prisoners to the Serjeant at Armes, where they remained all Sunday, not permitted to goe to Church with their Keeper: on Monday they were sent for to the House, and committed Sir *John Lucas* to the *Gate-house*, M. *Newcomin* to the *Fleet*. Immediately issued out a Declaration of both Houses to the whole Kingdome, but especially to the Countie of *Essex*, ordered to be read in all Churches and Chappels; wherein for the better encouragement of good people (so runne the words) it is told them that Sir *John Lucas's* Horse and Armes are imployed for the service of His Excellency, that Sir *John*, and M. *Newcomin* are committed to severall Prisons, and shall speedily be brought to their tryall, to receive condigne punishment according to their demerits.

Sir *John Lucas* was afterward enlarged, giving 40000 *l.* bayle to appear upon summons, and not to depart *London* and the Suburbs without leave. M. *Newcomin* remained in the *Fleet* from *Aug. 29.* to *Sept. 24.* being never called for, and at length discharged.

Sir *William Boteler of Kent*, returning about the beginning of *April 1642.* from his attendance, (being then  
Gen-

Gentleman Pensioner) on the King at York, then celebra-  
 ring Saint *Georges* feast, was by the earnest solicitation of  
 the Gentry of *Kent*, engaged to joyne with them in pre-  
 senting the most honest and famous Petition of theirs to  
 the House of Commons, delivered by Captaine *Richard*  
*Lovelace*, for which service, the Captaine was committed  
 Prisoner to the *Gate-house*, and Sir *William Boteler* to  
 the *Fleet*, from whence after seven weeks close imprison-  
 ment, no Impeachment in all that time brought in against  
 him, many Petitions being delivered and read in the  
 House for his enlargement, he was at last upon bayle of  
 10000 *L*. remitted to his House in *London*, to attend *de die*  
*in diem*, the pleasure of the House. And having thus dan-  
 ced attendance six weekes more, at last he obtained leave  
 for his healths sake to go to his own house in *Kent*, called  
*Barthams Place* in *Tewkesbury*, and from thence, for recovery  
 of his health much impaired by long Imprisonment, he  
 visited the Wells neare *Tunbridge*, leaving with his ser-  
 vants both in *London* & in the Country a strict charge as  
 of his house, so to give him speedy information, if Serjeant  
*Hunt* should summon him to make his appearance: while  
 Sir *William Boteler* remained thus a Prisoner to the House,  
 resolving to yeeld obedience according to the condition  
 of his bond, 500 Horse & Dragoones under the command  
 of Colonel *Edwine Sandes*, Sir *John Seaton*, and *Dow-  
 glas*, accompanied by severall Gentlemen his Neigh-  
 bours; as Sir *William Brookes*, Sir *Michael Lucy*. M. *Ri-  
 chard Lea* Burgesse for *Rocheſter*, M. *Blunt*, and others,  
 on the 24. of *August*, between eight and nine of the clock  
 at night, beset his house: The servants were within and  
 the doores shut, onely *William Nelson*, Sir *William's* Groom  
 coming from the Stables pressed through the middest of  
 them to the Hall doore, where *Sandes* and *Seaton* stood:  
 They demand of him whether he belonged to Sir *William*?  
 who answering that he did, Thou Rogue, sayes *Sandes*,  
 open the doore; the poore Groom tried, but could not,

but assured them that there should bee no resistance made : and withall told them, that his Master was at the Wells, but had left order to give them the best welcome the house could afford, and upon notice given would be ready (if they had such Order) to render himselfe up to the House of Commons, whose Prisoner hee acknowledged himselfe to be ; and withall offered that if they would have patience but while hee went to the back doore, the House should open unto them. This so reasonable an answer could not satisfie unreasonable men, who it seemes were resolved to force the doore, rather then have it opened, to give a peaceable admittance : Therefore they revile the Groome, call him Rogue, and threaten to kill him, not because he would not, but because he could not give them entrance. And to make good their threats, *Sandes* and *Seaton* commanded some of their Rout to hold him up against his Masters Hall doore, and bade some twelve or more Dragooners to give fire on him, which was done accordingly : on the word given, they that held him withdrew, not trusting to the undistinguishing bullet, and presently the Groome fell downe, by which meanes hee escaped the fury of the shot, which tooke effect onely on the doore, and beat it downe. The entrance that was offered, thus forced, the house is instantly filled by the Commanders, the Gentlemen, their abettors, and the Souldiers. The first man they meet with is *Ben. Wiand*, *Sir Williams* Steward, who being demanded by *Sandes* where his Master was, returned answer, the same in effect which before they received from the Groome : *Sandes* was as courteous to the Steward as the Groome, calls him Rogue, and tells him that he would have his Master alive or dead, commands him to bring him to the Chamber where *Sir William* did lodge, their drawne Sword and Muskets bent upon him extort obedience. Being brought into the Bed-chamber, *Sandes* demands whether there  
were



## Or, the Countries Complaints.

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were no private Out-let or Closet? to lay all naked before him, the Steward folds backe the Hangings, by which meanes the Colonel discovers a close-stole, which at worst could not be so loathsome, as hee was before hee dyed: This sight intraged him, not onely to revile the Steward, calling him Rogue, but cruelly to beat him with his Pole-axe; and having thus prepared him, he commands him upon no lesse paine then the losse of his life, to reveale his Masters Plate and Money; and to inforce the discovery from him, with drawne Swords they prick him, and force him from one roome to another. At last being come to the Dining Chamber, Colonel *Sandes* causes a dozen of Candles to be lighted, and so to be held to and under the Stewards hands, and lighted Match to be applyed betweene his fingers, for the space of a quarter of an houre, *Sandes* himselfe all the while looking on, commanded both Candle and Match to be renewed, as often as either went out, or burnt dull. In this Torment they continued the poore soule, untill both his hands were shamefully burnt, not being able to relieve himselfe by that discovery for which they tortured him. Nor was their barbarous cruelty thus practised on the Steward onely, from him they descend to the rest of the servants, whom they prick with their swords, beat with their Pole-axes to the indangering their lives, and all this to extort a Confession where their Masters Money and Plate were: but when this inhumanitie produced not the effect they looked for, they broke up every doore, plundered every Trunk and Chest, and examined every darke place from the Closet and Cabinet to the Powdring-Tub and Oven. Nay, the Cellar escaped not their fury; What they could not drinke, either Wine or Beere, they let out and poured upon the ground. In this search they found and carryed away five hundred pounds in money, and some store of Armes. And because the great adventures of valiant Knights must not bee forgotten, To the Eternall  
same

same of Sir *Will: Brookes* we are to tell you, that when the Ladies Cloſet was broken open, beſides the charitable proviſions of *Medicinall Sympes* and *Salves* for the poore and the needy neighbours, all which were trampled under foot and ſpoiled. There were ſome hospitable proviſions for Entertainments, as divers ſorts of Preserves and other ſweet-meats, and in theſe this doughty Knight had his finger as deep as any, except a common ſouldier, who ſeeing him feed greedily on a Gally-pot, and preſuming his judgement to be good in the choice, (for the Proverbe is true which end ſcever you put foremoſt, *A liquorish tayle bath a liquorish tooth*) rudely thruſt his whole fiſt all begrimed and beſmeared in bloud and powder, into the pot with him: which as it turned his Worthips ſtomack for the time, ſo it may ſerve as a ſure Prognosticke, That if theſe diſtractions goe on, where the Gentleman hath his finger, the Clown will be ſure to have his fiſt. But to leave him to his ſweet-meats, which perchance may have a ſowre ſawce, and returne to the Colonell and his plundering Regiment. Being Maſters of the Houſe, they plundered and pillaged not onely Sir *William Boteler*, but all his ſervants, men and maids, not only their cheſts, but their very pockets. Newes of this being brought to Sir *William Boteler* the next morning early by three of the clock, and finding by their threats, that his life was in danger, he reſolved to flye for protection to the King at *Nottingham*; In his way thither at *Pinkeny Marſton* in *Northamptonſhire*, he was ſeized on by the Countrey people, and by about 150 Horſe conveyed firſt to *Northampton*, and from thence to *London*. About the beginning of *September* he was brought before the Houſe of Commons, and there in a full Houſe was examined twice; to whom he gave a full and cleare ſatisfaction in every particular. And being unimpeached, the whole Houſe being utterly unable to accuſe him of any the leaſt kind of offence or Delinquencie, Sir *William Boteler* did then and there in the publique Houſe make his complaint

of this intollerable oppression and injustice, charging by name before the House, Colonel *Edwine Sandes*, Sir *John Seaton*, Sir *Michael Livysey*, *M. Richard Lea*, who then was present sitting in the house, and Sir *William brookes* with Felony and Burglary, for breaking up his house in the night, and stealing and carrying away his Money and Goods: and implored the justice of the House against them. And now behold their great zeale of Justice, their care of the Subjects Propertie, and the freedome of their persons from illegall imprisonment, in stead of harkning to his just complaint, and relieving him in his losses, to keepe *Magna Charta* inviolable, they Remand Sir *William Boteler* againe Prisoner to the *Gate-house*, where he remained for six months longer: at last being certainly informed, that it was really intended if not ordered by the House to send him to *Ipswich*, he indeavoured and effected an escape from the *Gate-house*, and got safe to *Oxford*, where he attested all these particulars.

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## Mercurius Rusticus, &c.

### II.

*Sir Hen. Audley's house plundered: Varietie of insolencies committed by the Rabble of Essex, upon M. Laud, M. Honifield, M. Stevens, and M. Simmons, Ministers. The Countesse of Rivers is plundered to the value of 100000 pounds, &c.*

**T**He last weekes *Mercurius* told you of the Plundering of Sir *John Lucas* his house in *Essex*, and the barbarous insolencies practiced on him and his. The Tumult thus raysed, and made confident by successe, they go on in Triumph, and like a violent Torrent swelling above  
its

its Channell, carry all before them, and fearing no opposition, they divide themselves into several companies, every place where they come taste of their fury & madnesse: Some goe to Sir *Henry Audleys* at *Beere-Church*, whose house they Plundered of its furniture, and his Grounds and Pastures of his Cattle.

Others goe to *M. Erasmus Land* a poore Minister of Little *Try*, whose very name with these men was a Crime and reason enough to expose him to their rage: guilty he was of nothing but a good & honest name, yet they spoyle him of his goods, drive away his Cattle, robbe him of 20 *li.* in Monies, his owne and his Wives Clothes, all except those upon their backs: *M. Land* knowing diverse of them, and knowing them to be *Colchester* men, repaired thither to the Major for Justice, and by chance found him wel circumstanced for an action of that nature, both in respect of place and company, for he found him at the *Mote-hall*, and the Aldermen his Brethren with him: Being come thither, he was so farre from finding what he sought for, Justice, that he was not permitted to make his complaint, *M. Cole* one of the Aldermen, telling him openly, that they knew him and his Cause, he was the Minister of *Try* that was Plundered the day before, but they had other businesse in hand and he must be gone, for they could not heare him.

Others of them went to *M. Honifield* a Batchelor in Divinitie, and near 70 yeares of age dwelling in *Colchester*, there they rife his house of all its furniture, take away his Bonds, Bills, and Evidences, leave not a shelve behind them, nor a pin to hang a hat on. The good old man, thinking that spoyle and Robbery had been as punishable now as when he was a young man, & not knowing that the pretending defenders of the Law had banished all Law out of the Kingdom, went to crave the Majors assistance, to restore his goods and punish the offenders. Alderman *Cole* the *Fulk* of *Colchester* being present, told him, That he

he wondred he would offer to come abroad being a man so much hated, and so rated him away. In his returne, a multitude of boyes & rude people throng about him, and prosecute him through the streets with exclamations and out-cries; nor do they stay here, their hands second their tongues, throwing stones and dirt at him. So little did either the hoary head and venerable old age, or the Priviledge of his sacred function afford him protection from the enraged multitude: Many see him, some pittie him, but none dare owne him or take him into protection, least they should divert this swelling tide of popular fury from the good old man, and draw it on themselves; at last bowels of compassion yearne on him, a kinsman of his emboldned, what by the urgency of Nature, and the constraint of Charitie, opens his doores to afford him shelter from this storm, but all in vain; like so many Beares robbed of their Whelps, they double their rage, the multitude threaten to pull down the house unless the prey be delivered up unto them: the good old man seeing the inexorableness of his prosecutors, to make a full return of the kindnesse which he found, resolves rather to expose his owne person as the subject of his fury, then his kinsmans house: and so he did, for out he goes unto them; and now having retrieved the game, they pursue him with a high advanced dinne and confused clamour: At last, when all other meanes to escape their fury failed, he made a voluntary captivitie his safetic, and took the Common Gaole for his Sanctuary.

Having thus throwne Master *Honifold* into prison, not so much the ignominy of the place where they had lodged him, or facietie of contempt of Gods Minister which they had cast upon him, as the want of more day light, sets an end to this dayes frenzie. They part for the present, but resolve to meet next morning; and so they doe, a day or two are too scantie to act their boundlesse malice. Being met, their next plundering expedition is to the Countesse  
of

of *Rivers* house at *S. Osyth*, a rich prize: there they enter the house, and being entred, they pull downe, cut in peeces, & carry away her costly Hangings, Beds, Couches, Chaires, and the whole furniture of her house, rob her of her Plate and Monies: They teare downe her Wainscote, Leads, and Windowes, they leave not a doore, nor so much as a barre of a window behind them. The Countesse with her family, forewarned of their intentions to come thither, made an escape, and retired to her house at *Melford* in *Suffolke*: thither within a day or two they pursue her, *Essex* is too narrow to bound the madnesse of the *Essex* Schismatics; in *Suffolke* they meet with some that are as mad as themselves: Few Counties (the more is the pitty) but can yeeld companions in such outrages. From thence she hardly escapes with her life, she abandons her house, and leaves it to the mercy of these new Ministers of new justice, who not onely rife the house, but make strict search for her person. And that you may ghesse what spirituall men they were, and likewise in what danger this honourable Person was in, they expresse themselves in this rude unchristian language, *That if they found her they would try what flesh she had*. From whence she fled to *S. Edmunds Bury*, where the Gates were shut against her an hour at least; at length she was suffered to lodge there that night, and next day with a strong guard she was conveyed out of Town, and so keeping her selfe as private as she could, made an escape to *London*. Her losses at both her houses were valued at an hundred thousand pounds at least, though some that knew the rich furniture that adorned both, affirme it to be no lesse then an hundred & fifty thousand pounds, besides her Parks in both places were utterly spoiled. One of these Plunderers whose name was *Bowyer*, was apprehended in *London* selling some of these goods in the very act, and for this committed to *Newgate* as a Felon, two of the Countesse's servants entring into Recognizance to give in evidence against him for the King, but upon his Petition to the

the House of Commons it was ordered he should be discharged without paying any fees, which was done accordingly; and 'twas but an oversight that his prosecutors had not been laid in his place, and publique thanks decreed him for his zeale to the Cause.

M. *Stevens* Parson of *South-Hamfeld* in *Essex*, hearing that the Plunderers of that County were coming on him, tooke horse and fled, and so saved both himselfe and his horse, for he knew that both were sought after. The father being fled, the children left to their owne providence, be-think how to secure those little peeces of Plate which each had received from the bounty of their Godfathers and Godmothers; neither time nor acquaintance could give them latitude of much choice where to hide it; and thinking any place safer then their owne house, they run to a poore woman their neighbour, and there with her they deposite their whole Treasure. When the Plunderers came and found that the birds were flowne, having intelligence, or as some say, but suspecting that the poor womans house might hide M. *Stevens* his goods, they go to her house and demand them: The woman denyes that she hath any of M. *Stevens* his goods: hereupon one of the Plunderers strikes her on the head with a Club with such violence, that her brains came out at her nostrils. The poore woman being thus murdered, the bloody Murderers insult over her, and say, that the just hand of God was upon her, for lying against her knowledge, and denying those parcels of M. *Stevens* his goods that were in her possession: so usuall a thing it is with these men to blaspheme God, and intitle him to all those wickednesses which they commit on others.

M. *Edward Symmons* Parson of *Rayne* in *Essex*, in the Months of *June* and *July* 1642. Preached against the sin of Rebellion and Disobedience, and against traducing the King, *flandering the footsteps of Gods Anointed*, and refused to promote the *Civill Warre* (then begun) by stirring  
up

up the people to contribute Money, Plate, and Horses; the maintenance of so unnaturall, so destructive a division as most of the Ministers of those parts did. This as it was more remarkable in him, so it was more hainously taken from him, in regard of his former intimate acquaintance with *M. Stephen Marshall* Parson of *Pinchingfield* in *Essex*, the great incendiary of this unhappy war, and had given him the right hand of Fellowship: Hereupon he was sent for to the House of Commons by a Pursevant, and was told, *That he being an honest man* (but of a different judgement from the Sence and Vote of the House) *did more prejudice to the good Cause in hand, then a hundred Knaves, and therefore would suffer accordingly*: which saying since that time, hath beene plentifully made good, and verified in many particular oppressions & sufferings, unjustly inflicted on him and his whole family.

First, he was imprisoned and most illegally deprived of his libertie, for no other cause, but because he would not; contrary to the dictate of Religion, and his owne conscience, countenance and promote an accursed Rebellion against his gracious Sovereigne.

Secondly, he was refer'd after to the Committee for *scandalous Ministers*, thereby to blast his Credit and Reputation in his Ministry: a most diabolicall and divelish Course, and a work of him who *is the accuser of the Brethren*, to defame honest Orthodox Ministers with the odious name of *Scandalous* and *Malignants*, though made so neither by error in doctrine, wickednesse of life, or debauchnes of conversation, but by the malignity of a Vote, knowing, that by this means, such Ministers doctrines and Testimonies will be of little or no credit afterward with the vulgar; for had it been Scandal in a true and proper sense, which they indeavoured to take away out of the Church, they would never have brought over his head, so scandalous, so intamous a man to be Lecturer in his Cure as they did: for to the wounding of *M. Symonds* his soule, and



and the indangering the soules of his Parishioners, one *Lemuel Tuke* is appointed Lecturer in Master *Simmons* his Church, a man by education a Weaver, and that had not so much as saluted either University, yet *while men slept* he intruded into a Cure of Soules in *Nottinghamshire*, from which ever since the Parliament began he hath been a *Non-resident*: for not long after the sitting of this Parliament, his Parishioners framed a Bill against him to the Lower House, Articling against him, not onely as negligent, but insufficient in his calling: Nay they accuse him of no lesse then *Narrettry* and *Battery*, *Drunkennesse* and *Whoredome*, and some such other sinnes, which in the judgement of all honest men, make a man truly and properly scandalous: yet this man thus Articled against to the House of Commons as Scandalous, is thought worthy to be substituted as a Coadjutor in M. *Simmons* his Cure, who onely was voted Scandalous because not Rebellious: so that all the world may judge what it is to be Scandalous in this new sense, To honour the King, and to live in obedience to the established orders of the Church.

Thirdly, having preached that it was unlawfull to take up Armes against the King, and contrary to the doctrine of the Scriptures to contribute to a Warre against Him, in opposition to *Lemuel Tuke*, who laboured to payson his People with Sedition and Rebellion, affirming openly, that in some Cases it was lawfull not onely to Resist, but (which I tremble to relate) to *kill the King*; instancing in the example of *Athaliah*, 2 King. 11. yet the said *Tuke* is countenanced and encouraged, whereas Master *Simmons* for asserting the Truth, was summoned before the Committee, there to answer as a Delinquent: who was so farre from a Retraction, that he justified the doctrine: which he did so fully, that one of the Committee was convicted of it, - yet as he himselfe did, so he would have Master *Simmons* to withhold that Truth in unrighteousnesse; for Sir *Thomas Savington* (who was the man) confessed

that it was a Truth and a Divine Truth, yet not fit to be preached at all times, no not by those that were intrusted with it by God himselſe, no though it might be in ſome danger of Impeachment. At laſt being charged to preach no more ſuch doctrine, and putting in bayle, by the Committee he is permitted to returne to his charge. But behold what it is to be voted a delinquent, or a Scandalous Miniſter by the Committee ; it is to be put out of the protection of the Law, and expoſed to the fury of the people : for on his returne Oath is made before a Juſtice of Peace, that at *Halſtead* in *Effex* it was concluded that an hundred men from *Coyſhall* and *Colcheſter* ſide (ſome of that Crew that plundered Sir *John Lucas* his houſe) ſhould ſuddenly ſurprize M. *Simmons* in his houſe, Plunder his goods, and cut off his perſon as one not fit to live, becauſe he was (as they ſaid) againſt the Parliament : But by the good providence of God this conſpiracy was diſcovered and prevented.

Fourthly, they oppreſſed him in his State, for after his Returne home, ſeeing the neceſſity of oppoſing that inundation of wickedneſſe which was overflowing his Charge, and preſſed earneſtly in conſcience according to his duty and place, to labour to undermine that throne of Satan which by the Luxation of the nerves and ſinews of Government was like to be ſet up both there and in all parts of the Kingdome, he bent himſelſe in his Sermon chiefly againſt the prevailing ſinnes of the time, as Lying and Slandering, Rebellion and Treason, Pride and Oppreſſion, Malice and Cruelty : yet theſe Sermons by his malicious enemies were interpreted little better then Libells againſt the Parliament : and upon Information given he was ſent for up, three or ſoure times, to the Lower Houſe, to his very great charge and trouble, though when he came to London he was never called to answer to the Accuſation. And becauſe he reſuſed to contribute voluntarily to the maintenance of the Rebellion, his mali-

malicious Neighbours resolved to extort it from him in a seeming legall way : for in the rates made for the Royall Subsidy, they raised him farre beyond his just proportion, and therefore in the first rate, they seized him twice as much, and in the second almost thrice as much as themselves ; and contrived their businesse so cunningly, that they caused him to be sent for up to the Parliament while these things were in doing, and returned rates in to the Exchequer in his absence, that so he might not have the opportunity, by complaint of a just greivance, to relieve himselfe.

Lastly, having by most unjust vexations exhausted his Estate and drayned his purse : without hearing his defence indeed without further summoning him to appeare, they sequester his Parsonage and Glebe, and Tytle, and put one *Robert Atkins* a stranger into Cure ; and as they put his Livelyhood into a Strangers hands, so they put his life into the power of his enemies, who are authorized to apprehend him, and carry him Prisoner to *Cambridge* : but upon Intimation given, he withdrew himselfe, and leaving all to the mercy of his Enemies, was forced by flight to secure his Person.

And here by the way give me leave to observe one thing to the Courteous Reader, and it is the Reason which was alleadged in the sequestration of *M. Simms* his Parsonage, and indeed is generally used in all these sequestrations, and it is, *For the better supply of an able and godly man in the said Church* : I would they could tell us where we should find these two Epithites *Able* and *Godly* to meete in any one of those which they have Substituted in the Revenues and Employments of those Orthodox Divines, which they have banished from their Cures and families : doe but survey the new Plantations which they have made, and you will think that *Ieroboams* Priests were risen againe from the dead, the lowest and basest of the people : for while honest, learned, and conscientious men could not suffer themselves to be made the base instruments to corrupt

and seduce the Ignorant multitudes to comply with the treasonable practices of the heads of this Rebellion, it was necessary to seeke out and invite such of the Clergy into their Party whomeither want of merite, or want of honesty, had left destitute of meanes, and when Orthodox men are displaced or driven away, and such Trencher Chaplaines put in their places, we may easily guesse what worke is in hand, even the alteration of the Government ; for while they are so earnest both to Preach and Print that other formes of Government are Gods ordinance as well as Monarchy, they will in time goe on to undervalue Monarchy in comparison of the rest : but to leave my diversion and to returne to M. *Simmons*.

His living sequestered, and his person exposed to the licence of his veryest enemies, but he withdrawing himselfe from this storme, and being out of their reach, they wreck their malice on his poor Wife and Children, and his aged Father : They threaten 'to beat downe the house about their eares, unlesse they would yeeld possession to M. *Atkins* : his father for cutting downe three trees on the Glebe for necessary uses, and an honest Parishioner for loving M. *Simmons* and plowing his Land, were most maliciously handled, and sent for up before the Committee in the *Exchequer* Chamber : and when after all these threats and oppressions they still keep possession of the Parsonage house, having no place else wherein to put their heads, at last *May* the 15. *Watt Tyler*, I mean *Watt Long*, whom some call Colonell *Long*, came with some Troopes of Horse, and cast his whole family out of doores, his aged Father, his Wife and three Children, the eldest but seven years old, and his servants : and so gave possession of the house to M. *Atkins*.

— He that desires to be better satisfied concerning this faithfull Minister of God, and what raised this persecution against him, let him have recourse to that Learned and Orthodox Book of his lately published, called, *A Loyall Subjects*

*Subjects Believe*, worthy every mans reading, wherein he shall see a solid and satisfactory Answer to all those Arguments divulged by way of a Letter by *Stephen Marshall* the great Patriarch of Rebellion, whereby he indeavours to maintaine the Lawfulnesse of this present Warre against the King : In which Letter you may see the true character of a Cauterized Schismaticke, for as if he were afraid the World should not think him scaled up to a reprobate sense, and past all grace of Repentance, he tells us that as soon as he hath recovered his health (much impaired by a hot eager prosecution of this Rebellion) he intends to returne (with the Dogge to his vomit) to sacrifice his strength to the service of the Cause and his Excellency, in all which, while he labours to free himself from the imputation of Madnesse, and apologizeth against a prevailing report, that the horror of his guilt had distracted him, he proves himselfe to be madder then ever the World took him.

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## Mercurius Rusticus, &c.

### III.

*The great increase of Brownists and Anabaptists at Chelmsford of late yeeres. Their abuse of the Church, and Doctor Michelson Parson there. Their Tenets in matters of Religion. Master Cornelius a Minister plundered, &c.*

**E**SSEX is a deep Country, and though we have travelled almost two weeks in it, yet wee cannot get out : we are now at *Chelmsford*, which is the Shire-towne, and hath in it two thousand Communicans; all these are Parishioners of one and the same Church,

Church, for there is but one Church in this great Towne, whereof at this time Doctor *Michelson* is Parson, an able and godly man. Before this Parliament was called, of this numerous Congregation there was not one to be named Man or Woman, that boggled at the Common-prayers, or refused to receive the Sacrament kneeling, the posture which the Church of England (walking in the foot-steps of venerable Antiquity) hath by Act of Parliament injoynd all those which account it their happinesse to be called her children. But since this magnified Reformation was set on foot, this Towne (as indeed most Corporations, as we finde by experience, are Nurceries of Faction and Rebellion) is so filled with Sectaries, especially *Brownists* and *Anabaptists*, that a third part of the people refuse to communicate in the Church-Lyturgie, and halfe refuse to receive the blessed Sacrament, unlesse they may receive it in what posture they please to take it. They have amongst them two sorts of *Anabaptists*; the one they call the Old men or *Aspersi*, because they were but sprinkled: the other they call the New men, or the *Immersi*, because they were overwhelmed in their Rebaptization.

In *August* 1641. there was an Order published by the House of Commons (indeed by some leaders in a Committee) for the taking away all Scandalous Pictures out of Churches, in which there was more intended by the Authors then at first their instruments understood, untill instructed by private information how farre the People were to enlarge the meaning. When this Order came forth, there was standing in the Chancell a goodly faire Window at the East end, untouched from the first foundation of the Church, in which was painted the History of Christ from his Conception to his Ascension: and to perpetuate the memory of the Benefactors, in the vacant places there were the Eschichions and Armes of the ancient Nobility and Gentry, who had contributed to the building

building and beautifying that faire structure. In obedience to the Order the Church-wardens tooke downe the pictures of the blessed Virgin, and of Christ on the Crosse, and supplied the places with white glasse. But the Sectaries who understood the sense of that Order better then the Church-wardens, did rest very ill satisfied with this partiall imperfect Reformation: That therefore they might, according to the phrase of the times, make a Thorough Reformation, on the Fifth of *November* in the Evening, all the Sectaries assemble together, and in a Riorous manner with long Poles and stones beat downe and deface the whole Window.

This exercise of an usurped power in the People without the Lawfull Magistrate, like that which *Andreas Corolofadins* put in practice in the Reformation under *Luther*, and was sharply condemned by him: and indeed gave the unhappy occasion to that Schisme which is hardly made up at this day: stirred the spirit of the Doctor to inveigh, the next Lords day, against Popular tumultuous Reformations, though to the better: as being vitiated, *First*, by the defect of lawfull Authority, which cannot reside in the people: *Secondly*, in the intemperancy of the prosecution, who commonly cast out one Devill by another: abolishing Superstition with Sedition. This so incensed the Sectaries thus to be opposed in their furious zeale, that they threatned the Doctor to ruine him if he preached any more on that subject: and to let him see how welcome such doctrine was unto them, there was a Carbine discharged at a window of that roome where the Doctors usuall abode was, the Bullet passed through the place, and in all probability had slain him, had not the good Providence of God (without which a Sparrow falls not to the ground) diverted him unexpectedly from a businesse before knowne to be appointed for that place and houre. This designe frustrated, about

a fortnight after one of these new Profelytes a young Clothier with others possessed with the same frenzy came into the Church immediatly after divine Service was ended, layd violent hands upon the Doctor, took him by the Throat, and would have torne his Surplesse off his back, and were so intraged, that had not some of his honest peaceable Parishioners come to his rescue, they had in all probability indangered his life : but whom they could not wound with their hands, they cut with their tongues, *as with a sharpe razor* : they revile him and call him *Baals Priest*, and Popish Priest for wearing the Rags of *Rome*, nay they cry out against him as a Perjured Person that had violated his faith ingaged in the Protestation, to abolish Popery, of which (in their opinion) wearing the Surplesse was a part. Many attempts they made upon the Doctor and his Curate, affronting them, both in officiating Divine service, and administration of the Sacraments ; but they being countenanced by a considerable part in the Towne, the Sectaries could not effect what they desired, untill at last in the Months of *June, July, and August, 1642.* they were animated by the coming of the Forces raised in *Essex, Suffolke and Norfolk* : for as they raised each Company it was sent to *Chelmesford* the common Rendevouz, and there stayed untill they were made up three hundred or foure hundred, and so sent to *London*. In all the time of their stay there, the Doctor lay at the mercy of the Souldiers, who egg'd on by the Brownists and Anabaptists of the Towne, used his house as their Quarter, consumed his provisions for his Family, and commanded there as Lords : Amongst many Outrages committed by the Souldiers, Three are most remarkable.

First, upon a Fast day they send a Command to the Doctor that he should not pray for the *Bishops*, nor so much as make mention of taem in his lipps : nor use the Book of Common Prayer, if he did they



they threaten to pull him out of the Pulpit, and teare him in pieces: the Doctor not intimidated by their Threat, gives order to his Curate to read the Prayers appoynted: which accordingly he did. The Souldiers right bred being Volunteeres of *Colchester* and *Ipswich*; and rightly designed too, for my Lord *Sayes* own Regiment, fit Souldiers for such a Leader, irreverently sit with their Harts on, make a noyse to drowne the Curates voyce, nay they call to him to come out of his *Calves Coope*, meaning the Reading-deske, and make an end of his Portage: the Curate remembering that advice of our Saviour *not to cast pearles before Swine, nor holy things to doggs*, gives over reading, unwilling to expose the holy worship of God to so foule contempt and scorne. Having thus silenced the Curate, their commanders looking on, they violently take the Sacred Bible to teare it, but being reprov'd for it by Sergeant Major *Bamfield* then present, they exchange the Bible for the Booke of Common Prayer: having it in their power in Solemne triumph they carry it into the streets, and that which holy Martyrs inspired by the holy Ghost compos'd, and sealed the truth and sanctitie of it with their dearest blood, these Savage Miscreants rent in peeces: some of the leaves they tread under feet, some they cast into the kennell, some they piss'd upon, and some they fix'd on the end of their Clubbs and Cudgels, and in a Triumphant manner march'd with them up and down the Towne.

Secondly, about a week after when the Doctor was in the Chancell there to interre the Corpes of a Gentleman lately deceased, these Souldiers rush'd into the place with an intent to bury the quick with the dead, to put the Doctor into the same grave, which they had done (for no other reason but because he us'd the forme prescribed by the Church at buriall of the dead) had he not been powerfully rescued by his Parishioners.

Lastly,

Lastly, when the glad Tydings were brought to *Chelmsford*, that *Episcopacy* was voted down by the house of Commons, all usuall expressions of an exulting joy were used, amongst the rest Boonfires were kindled in every street, but most of the fuell was violently taken from the Doctors wood-yard. And now the pile raised and the fire kindled, they want nothing but a Sacrifice, this they resolve shall be the Doctor himself: to this purpose the *Separatists* of the Towne assisted by two companies of Souldiers, in the Evening assault him in his house, seize upon his person, and are ready to carry him to the fire, there to throw him headlong into the midst of it: but some of his friends having information of the design, go and acquaint the Commanders with the bloody intentions of their Souldiers, who presently take a guard and rescue the Doctor out of their power as soone as ever they had seized on him.

Since that oppressed and worried every day by these ravenous wolves, he was forced to forsake his Charge (as many other godly Ministers are) and to fly for his life: leaving his wife and eight children to the mercy of the Rebels, who have deprived his family of all their livelyhood, and exposed them to extreame want: Nay, they have severall times broken violently into his house under pretence to search for him, and have held Pistolls cocked, and Swords drawn, at the breasts of his Children and Servants, charging them upon their lives to reveale where the Doctor was.

It was lately certified from thence by a chiefe Member of that Towne and no friend of the Doctors, that he finds the case there to be farre worse then he expected, for while they hoped that the power being (Trayterously) wrested out of the Kings hand, they should have shared it amongst themselves, they find that either the power is fallen into their hands that are farre beneath them, or else hath raised these men up far above them, for as he writes, *the Town is governed by a Tinker, two Coblers, two Taylors, two Pedlers, &c.*

And

And that the World may see what a Systeme of Divinity these Coblers and Taylors are like in time to stitch together, and what Principles they intend to Rule by, I shal here set down certain preparatory prelusory Propositions which they usually Preach (for Preach they doe) to their infatuated Disciples, and by them are received as the divine Oracles of God: and you shall have them in their owne Termes: viz.

First, *That Kings are the burdens and plagues of those people or Nations over which they governe.*

Secondly, *That the relation of Master and Servant hath no ground or warrant in the New Testament, but rather the contrary: for there we read, In Christ Jesus there is neither bond nor free, and, we are all one in Christ.*

Thirdly, *That the Honours and Titles of Dukes, Marquesses, Earls, Viscounts, Lords, Knights, and Gentlemen are but Ethnicall and Heathenish distinctions amongst Christians.*

Fourthly, *That one man should have a Thousand pounds a yeare, and another not one pound, perhaps not so much, but must live by the sweat of his browes, and must labour before he eate, hath no ground, neither in Nature or in Scripture.*

Fifthly, *That the common people heretofore kept under blindness and ignorance, have a long time yielded themselves servants, nay slaves to the Nobility and Gentry: but God hath now opened their eyes, and discovered unto them their Christian liberty: and that therefore it is now fit that the Nobility and Gentry should serve their servants, or at least work for their owne maintenance; and if they will not work, they ought not to eate.*

Sixthly, *That Learning hath alwayes been an enemy to the Gospel, and that it were a happy thing if there were no universities, and all Books burnt except the Bible.*

Seventhly, *That any man whom God hath (as they call it) Gifted, may be chosin by the Congregation for their Pastor:*

and

*and that imposition of hands by the Bishop and Presbyterie are meere Popish Innovations.*

What more additions to these monstrous Opinions, the wildnesse of such mens braines, assisted by the cunning of the Devill, and encouraged by the usurped power of these times may produce, we must leave to the discovery of time. In the interim (good Reader) stand amazed, and wonder at this excellent patterne of the intended blessed Reformation. Had not God, to prepare us for destruction, deprived us of knowledge, had he not closed our eyes that we should not see, and hardened our hearts that we should not understand, were we not a people as the Prophet speaks, forsaken and meted out for destruction, it could not be, but that Mankind would rise up against this Generation of Vipers and their Protectors, and sweep them away, to use the Metaphor of the holy Ghost, *with the beesome of destruction*, who if a while connived at, will prove moths fretting to the destruction both of Church and State: for in this Modell you may see the *Babel* which is now in building, and the budding forth of those Brambles, out of which (if not timely quenched) will come forth a fire (as it is in *Jothams* Parable) which will devour the *Cedars of Lebanon*.

The same godly Reformers which plundered Master *Laud* before mentioned, came afterwards to Master *Cornelius* Parson of *Peldon* in the same Countie of *Essex*, whom they rob of all his goods within doores and without: they spared not his Library, nor his Wives Child-bed Linnen, though she was great with Child, and in danger by the fright she took at their comming, to have occasion to make use of them before her due time, they plunder him to the value of foure hundred pounds, a very great summe in a poore Clergie-mans purse, especially as these times goe. For reliefe of his losse he sends his servant to the Major of *Colchester* (a famous Justiciary as you may remember the last Weeke in the relation of Master *Laud* and  
Master

Master *Houifields* cases) having made his Complaint, and accused the Plunderers by name, the Major knew that some body deserved Commitment, but had the ill luck to be mistaken in the person, and therefore instead of the Plunderers he commits Master *Cornelius* his man to the Gaole, where he is lodged for a Malignant, untill his Master (plundered of his man too) came and put in Bayle that his servant should be forthcoming to answer to all objections the next Sessions. Master *Cornelius* knowing that he should in vaine expect Justice where he found Oppression, from the Major goes to Master *Gardner* a Justice of Peace not farre off, who grants his Warrant for apprehension of the parties: who being apprehended (though for Felonie) put in Bayle to answer the next Sessions. When the time came, Master *Cornelius* indicts these Plunderers, the Bill was found by the Grand Jury upon the evidence of three or foure witnesses who were Spectators, and saw them carry away the goods: nay the Prisoners at the Barre not onely confessed the fact in their examination before the Justice, when they were first apprehended, but in the face of the Court, and presence of the Jurors: yet the Petty-Jury, contrary to reason and their owne consciences, found the Indictment against the King. The Court wondring at so wilfull blindness, cause the Statute to be read, lay open the evidence, and remand them back, not doubting but comparing the fact with the Law, the Result would be a verdict for the King: they persist in their obstinacy and returne *Ignoramus*: Being asked by the Bench how they could goe against so cleare evidence? They answered in generall, Because they did not thinke PLUNDERING (a new name for an old Theft) to be Felony by the Law: but being beaten out of this starting hole, though tenne are convicted, yet two stand out, and give this reason, that they were a Malignants goods, and the Parliament had given power to plunder such: but when it was replied that no such Order was produced,

duced, nor was it pleaded by the Prisoners at the Barre, they then professed openly, that these men arraigned at the Barre were honest men, that they had an Intent to doe them favour and they would doe it: Hereupon the Bench justly incensed against so willfull perjury binds over the Jurors to answer it the next Assizes: and withall, order M. *Cornelius* to indict these plunderers againe upon an other Felony, he obeyes their command and the Grand Jury find it to be *Billa vera*: but when the under-Sheriffe went out to impanell a Jury to try the Prisoners, he could find none but Separatists, who attended there that day purposely to be of the Jury, and professed openly that they stayed there to save the Prisoners. Happy men these, that may commit Murthers, robberies, and thefts, and yet feare no Condemnation, neither at the Tribunall of God or Man. It is an usuall doctrine of this Sect, *That God sees no sinne in his children*, (for that name they will ingrosse to themselves, though no men lesse deserve it) and it seemes they are resolved to see no sinne one in another. It was a wild saying of a great Patriarke of theirs, That the Children of God were *Heteroclitites*, because God did often save them even contrary to his owne Rules. I know not how true they will find this assertion at the great day, when Murther shall be Murther, and Theft Theft, and God that righteous Judge, who without respect of persons, shall render to every man according to his deeds, yet here on earth, if these men may judge one another, they may commit what wickednesse they list, and let the raines loose to all kinds of villany, and yet be saved contrary to all the rules of Law and Justice.

M. *Archer* Lecturer at the same place, in his Sermon encouraged the people to take up Armes against the King, but it may be objected, sayes he, that the Gentry gainsay this Doctrine, and the Learned utterly disclaime it as erroneous and damnable, but what though the Gentry and Learned (as you call them) dissent, yet let it not Stagger your

your believe of this undouted Truth : for I tell you that in my Conscience you may do it, and in doing it you are so far from sinning, that you will do that which is acceptable to God. Be liberall therefore in contributing to this holy warre, and sending forth men to fight this Battle of the Lord. This man in his Prayers and Sermons constantly calls the Parliament, *The Lords Annoynted*, but with what Oyle it is not yet determined : I am sure by experience we find that it is not *Oyle of Gladnesse*.

## Mercurius Rusticus, &c.

### I V.

*Sir Rich: Mynshull's house in Buckinghamshire plundered by the Lord Brooks command. The Kings picture abused. A house burnt neare Hounslow by the Lord Whartons Souldiers. M. Wiborow and M. Thorne, the one a Minister in Essex, the other in Bedfordshire, the first ill-treated on the Lords day by the Lord S. Johns Troopers, the other unjustly committed to Prison for a private revenge.*

**O**N Mupday the 15. of August, 1642. Sir Richard Mynshull of Bourton in the County of Buckingham Knight, furnished with tenne Horse and Armes, began his journey into the North to wait upon the King, as in the duty of a servant and subject he was bound. This being discovered (for they have spyes in every corner) to the Lord Brooke, Sir Peter Temple, Sir Rich: Ingoldesby, Master Goodwine, and others then at Aylesbury, leaders of an Army raised against His Majesty. It fell under consideration to make Sir Richard Mynshull a precedent to deter others from serving the King, since it was not to be done but

but by exposing their persons to Imprisonment and their estates to plundering, for the Result of that deliberation was, that since they could not secure his person, they would seise on his estate. Nor doe they stay long before they put the sentence in execution : for on Thursday the 18. of *August*, the Lord *Brooke* commanding a great part of the Army, came to Sir *Richards* house, and in case he should find Resistance, they bring diverse peece of Ordnance to batter the House : but being come they find no opposition. The first company that enters the house were under the command of one Cap: *Iones*, who either detesting the oppression, or yet not flished in the sin, which but then found footing in this Kingdom, (for this was the first of this kind committed in *Buckinghamshire*, and the second in *England*) moderated the eagerness: of the Souldiers sharpe set on the prey, so that they gleaned but a little here and there ; this moderation renders Capitaine *Iones* suspected for a Papist both to the Lord *Brooke* and the rest of the Commanders : nay he is not onely voiced for a Papist, but a Rumor is raised that he was bribed into this Moderation, and had taken a reward to spare Sir *Richards* goods : the Captain blasted with these reports, the jealousie of him grew so high that they threaten to kill him : to avoyd the fury of the Souldiers he is faine to withdraw himselfe, nor durst he appear before a Servant of Sir *Richards* had made oath that he was Innocent of any such Contract. And now the Lord *Brooke* and his Company being masters of the House, the first thing on which they expresse their rage is the Kings picture, which with their swords they most traiterously pierce through in divers places : and not content to wound him in that representation, (whose person God miraculously hath, and we hope will preserve from them) They whet their tongues against their Sovereigne, using Traiterous and scornfull language against Him : by all which it is more then manifest to all the world, what they would doe to the Substance,

if



if they had Him in their power, that expresse such malice on his shadow: having at first entrance violated their Loyaltie to their King (according to His Majesties frequent predictions) their fellow Subjects cannot expect Justice at their hands: now all is lawfull prize that comes to hand, Money, Plate, Jewels, many suits of Rich Hangings, Linnen, Bedding, they Plunder from the Cabinet to the Larder, and make cleane worke as they goe, leaving no booty for a second Plunder. And though that house were but one, yet in that one they Plundered three, Sir *Richard* having dis-robbed two houses, one in *Essex*, the other in *London*, thinking to secure all in this third: while these things were in doing, the Lord *Brooke*, with other Commanders, commands the Wine-seller to be broke up: but in a saucy imitation of greatnesse, they will not drinke without a Taster, yet not being confident enough, professedly to owne Regall observance, for prevention of danger, a pretence was made, that the Wine was Poysoned, and one of Sir *Rich.* servants is compelled (a Pistol set to his breast) to begin and lead the way, that if there were any danger the experiment might be made in him: he having gain'd a Cup of Wine by their dissembled State, they follow freely, and drinke very liberally to the good successe of their designs: without ever scrupling whether drinking so, did not come within the nature of a *bea'th*. And indeed it was an oversight that *Casuis* *Prin* was not consulted in the Case, the Cup often goes round, at last some inspired with the spirit of Wine, Prophecie, that Sir *Richards* Treasure was buried in the Seller, presently they fall to digging, and instead of Treasure find a Mine of Bottles: they drinke up the Wine, and in indignation break the bottles: from hence to coole the Wine they goe to the Beere Seller, and in both what they could not drinke, they break the vessells, and let runne on the ground: after this they breake open his Library, and the place where he kept his

Evidences: they seize on all the Bills, Bonds, Deeds, Evidences, Writings and Bookes which they find, whether Sir *Richards* or his friends: some of these they take away with them, some they teare in pieces, some they binde in bundles and make them serve instead of fuell both to heat Ovens and to roste meat for their supper: and would by no meanes suffer any of them to be redeemed, though large summes of money were offered for them: the house it self escapes not their fury: wanting Ladders to come at the Lead, they supply this defect with the Rackes broken downe from the Stables: they rip up the Lead and carry it away, they teare downe the wals of the houses with Spades and Mattocks, they dig up the lower roomes, hoping there to find more Treasure: they breake the Windowes Doores, Wainscot, Seelings, Glasse, they take away all Iron Barres, Casements, Locks, Keyes and Hinges: They break open his Wooll-house and Barns and empty and all: they enter the Dove-house, and like vermine destroy the Pigeons: onely one of these vermine falling from the holes brake his back and dyed thereof: and because they could not carry away his house covertly they indeavour to fire it, to this purpose they leave matches burning in the mats but were discovered. From his house they issue out into his ground: there they lay all common, they break up his rales and fences: of his Sheep, what they did not eat, they sold, Sheep worth 20 s. for twelve pence, Lambs worth 10 s. for six pence: and the reasons why the rates of their market were so low, were, first they were a Malignant and Traytors goods (so they styled Sir *Richard*.) Secondly, they were sold to their Brethren, and therefore must afford good Penniworths. The rest of the Stocke they runne their swords or Pikes into most of them and Spoyle them. Nor was Plunder the only thing they looked after, blood is in their thoughts. First, they send a Troop of horse to pursue Sir *Richard*, and threaten to cut him as small as hearbes to the Pot:

Pot: they clap a strong guard on Sir *Richards* Lady, deny her a bed to lye on, though the neighbours earnestly intreated. Some there were among them, who (poore Soules) affrighted with these barbarous Insolencies fled into the field, and hid themselves in growing Hempe, and there lay on the ground almost 20 houres without meat or any sustenance, so that what with fright and dampnesse of the earth, some of them contracted dangerous sickneses, and hardly escaped with life. The Terror which fell upon the Country there about was so great, that the neighbouring Justice of Peace durst not grant his Warrant to search after any of Sir *Richards* goods, though earnestly intreated to it: and the neighbours were so ill used and threatened to extort confession from them where Sir *Richard* was, or where any of his goods were conveyed, that some sounded for fear, some fell mad, and some dyed. Certaine it is their carriage was so barbarous, that it enforced M. *Jo. Crew* one of the Company to profess his dislike, and to tell the Lord *Brookes* and the rest, That they being Law-makers should not be Law-breakers, nor make such precedents as would discover their intentions and render them odious unto the Country: since that knowing Sir *Richard* to have put himselfe for preservation of his Life under his Majesties Protection, they have caused his Pond heads to be digged downe, and have destroyed all his Fish, they have cut downe his woods and seized on all his Lands, or made them utterly unprofitable unto him, for they will not suffer any Baylis or servant of his to take any care of his estate, but have often sent parties of horse to seize on them or kill them.

At a place called *Kings-harbour* neare *Honslow-bent*, three Souldiers, under the Command of the Lord *Chaggon*, came into a house to drinke, going away, they of the house demand money for their drinke: so unexpected an affront did so incense the Souldiers, that one of them told his Companions he would show them how they see

houses on fire in *Ireland*, and so put his Carbice into the Thatch and discharged it, set the house on fire and departed. The Generall *ESSEX* returning from *London*, came by as the house was on fire, complaint is made unto him that the owner of the house was undone, but all in vaine, his excellency was not at leasure to doe Justice.

The Countesse of *Rivers* (who as you heard in the second Weekes Relation was Plundered to the value of an hundred thousand, or an hundred and fiftie thousand pound) finding her abroad here unsafe, having lost her goods, and her person in danger, to secure her selfe resolved for a time to abandon her County, and rather expose her selfe to the hazard of Travell, then commit her selfe to that protection which the contemned Laws now affords. To this purpose she obtained a Passe to goe beyond Seas: While she was in preparing for her voyage, Master *Martin* Plunder-master Generall, he that so familiarly speaks Treason, and steales the Kings Horses, or doth any thing, Plunders the Countesse of her Coach horses, notwithstanding a Warrant from the Lords House to secure them: And when this Warrant was produced to stave off this Parliament Horse-taker, he replied, That if the Warrant had been from both Houses he would obey it, as coming from the highest Authority in *England*, (sure this man was borne with Treason in his month) but since it came *But* from the Lords, he did not value it. When this Warrant could not prevaile, the Countesse obtaines a Warrant from the Earl of *Essex* to have the Horses restored unto her againe, but Master *Martin*, to over-bear all, procures an Order from the House of Commons to keepe them. This honourable Ladies goods were seized on, though licenced to passe by the Lords, and searched and allowed by the Custome-house.

At *Pebmasse* in the same County of *Essex*, on the Lords day, divers of the Parliament Voluntiers came into the Church,

Church, while the Parson Master *Wiborow* was in his prayer before Sermon, and placed themselves neere the Pulpit, and when he was in his Prayer, one of them struck divers times with his staffe against the Pulpit to interrupt him, and while he was in his Sermon in contempt of the place where they were, and the sacred action in doing, they were almost as loud as the Preacher, to the great disturbance of the Congregation. No sooner was the Sermon ended, and the Parson come out of the Pulpit as far as the Reading-desk, but they lay violent hands upon him, rent his clothes, and threaten to pull him in pieces in the Church. With much intreatie they spare him there, and permit him to goe into the Church-yard: he is no sooner come thither, but they assault him more violently then before: Master *Wiborow* seeing the Constable (who all this while stood a spectator of his hard usage) calls unto him, and charges him in the Kings name to keepe the Kings Peace: at his request they did a little forbear him: but before he could get halfe wayes home, they assault him againe, and demand his Booke of Common Prayer which he used in the Church, (That which was found by the Parish, being torne in pieces before), which he refusing to deliver up unto them, they wreck their fury on him: They tugge and hale him, and vow to kill him, unlesse he deliver up the Booke of Common Prayer to their pleasure: he stoutly refuseth: Hereupon they fall upon him, strike up his heeles, and take it from him by force, and so carry it away in triumph.

M. *Stakerby* (a silenced Minister heretofore) preaching at *Halstead* in the same County, told them that to bow at the Name of *Jesus*, was to thrust a spear into Christs side, and such Ministers as signed children with the signe of the Crosse, did as much as in them lay to send such children unto the Devil.

When the Earl of *Essex* and the rest, went from *Reading*,

to London, after the unhappy (to say no more) surrender to that Towne, they left there a Committee consisting of none but City Captains & Tradesmen, these according to the authority committed unto them, summon all the able men of the Parishes thereabout, to appear before them at *Reading*, and assessed them at their pleasure. In *Marlow* they assessed one Master *Druce* at 1000 *l.* they fell to 500 *l.* he refusing to pay was imprisoned, but the Prison being most nasty and loathsome, denied the Accommodation of Bedding, was forced to pay 300 *l.* Master *Horsepoole*, they sealed at 200 *l.* Master *Chase* (a man Plundered before) at 40 *l.* twentie pound was offered, but nothing will be abated of thirtie. *Eliot* a Butcher at an hundred pound and imprisoned. *Cocke* a Baker at 20 *l.* Master *Fornace* the Vicar (not suffered to speak for himselfe because a Malignant) at 10 *l.* and paid seven. *John Langley* 10 *l.* *Thomas Langley* 20 *l.* *William Langley* 5 *l.* and *Wilmot* his servant 5 *l.* *John More* 80 *l.* *Huskins* a Shoemaker 5 *l.* *Cane* an Inne-keeper 7 *l.* Rates so illegall, or had they bin legall, so unequally proportioned to these mens Estates, that had Ship-money been still on foot, it would not have drawne so much money out of their purses in fortie or fiftie years, as this blew Apron Committee at *Reading*, removed some seven or eight degrees from the Close Committee at *Windsor*, extorted from them at one clap. O that wee were but so wise as to compare our Conditions! certainly then we could not but acknowledge the just wrath of God upon us for our ingratitude, murmuring so much when wee had so little cause, and blesse God for the returne of our former Peace, though with all its grievances, and those maliciously aggravated.

Master *Giles Thorne*, Bachelor in Divinitie, and Parson of *S. Cuberts* in *Bedford*, was upon Sunday in the beginning of *August* last 1642. apprehended in his Parish Church immediately after he came out of the Pulpit (having preached three Sermons in the Towne that day) by the

the Lord *Saint-Johns* Troopes, who lay then in *Bedford*, and in a very boysterous manner carryed away to an Inne in the Towne, not permitted to go home to his house to visite his family, nor any of his friends suffered to come to him: the next day he was carryed away to *London*, where when he had lye[n] more then three weekes under the Messengers hands, he was brought to his Tryall at the Barre in the Lords House: Accusations are framed against him out of Sermons preached nine years before, Witnesses are produced to prove the Articles, who so well remembered what they were to say, that they were faine to read their depositions out of Papers which they brought in their hands. Master *Thorne* gives so full an answer to all the objections, that the Lords pronounce themselves satisfied and him innocent, onely the Lord *Say* disputes with him, and the Earl of *Bullingbrooke* grumbles at him. At length it is pretended, that there is another witness in the Country that can say somewhat, especially if it be written down in a Paper, as it was to his fellow deponents: hereupon he is committed to the *Fleet*, there to remaine till that Witness can be prevailed with to find leisure to come up. About three weekes after the Witness appeares, and is sworne, and contrary to the Rules of that Court is sent to be examined by a Clerke. Master *Thorne* with much adoe obtaines a Copy of his depositions: which upon a view containe no new matter but what he had before answered unto & cleared: hereupon he Petitions again for a sentence: he is ordered to attend the House: after a chargeable attendance of many dayes with his Keeper, he is called, the cause reviewed, upon the review, the Earles of *Pembroke*, *Holland*, *Clare*, and divers others, affirme that in their consciences they had acquitted him at the first hearing, and now upon the review, found nothing to alter their opinion, and therefore thought it fit he should be discharged. But well fare a good neighbour at a dead list: the Earl of *Bullingbrook* objects, that he is a man of a malignant spirit,

that he hath great interest in the affections of the people amongst whom he lives, and therefore if enlarged and remitted home may doe much prejudice to the good Cause in hand, upon these just and weightie Considerations, *M. Thorne* is remanded to the *Fleet*: since that time he hath used the assistance of many friends, drawn many Petitions, humbly desiring that he might be heard; or if the great affaires of State would not afford their Lordships so much leasure, that he might have leave upon bayle to goe down to attend his Cure, untill their Lordships should please to call for him: but was so farre from obtaining his desire, that he could never get so farre towards it as have his Petition read. His Parishioners sensible of his oppression and their own injury, being bereaved of the comfort and labours of their owne Pastor, sent up a Petition subscribed with three hundred hands to the same effect, that Justice might have a free uninterrupted course either to condemn or absolve him, but all in vain: so that for ought we yet understand he is still a Prisoner, and for any thing we are yet informed to the contrary, he is without hopes for enlargement, though his Judges have pronounced him innocent. And now would you know the true cause of all this oppression? Know then that it is possible for the high Court of *England* to be made the instrument of private revenge: for *Sir Samuel Luke* divers yeares since suing *M. Thorne* in the *Star-Chamber*, it was *M. Thornes* unhappiness to get the day of him, an injury which *Sir Samuel* could never forget, and did now revenge it by the help of the Earle of *Bullingbrooke*, the Lord *Saint Johns* sonne, and his own interest in the house. This story hath beene attested by some that were both eare and eye witnesses of these particulars, and let me be substituted Prisoner in *M. Thornes* place if he (for ought I know) know any thing that I know this, or intended to make it knowne to the World.

Mer-



## Mercurius Rusticus, &amp;c.

## V.

*Warder Castle gallantly defended by the Lady Arundel, against Sir Edward Hungertord and his power: his perfidiousnesse in breaking the Articles of Surrender: his barbarous use of the Lady, her children, and goods. Master John Bykar, a Vicars sonne, murdered at Coventry. Master Abraham Haynes robbed, abused, and unjustly committed, &c.*

ON Tuesday the second of May, 1643. Sir Edward Hungertord, a chiefe Commander of the Rebels in *Wiltshire*, came with his Forces before *Warder Castle* in the same Countie, being the Mansion house of the Lord *Arundel* of *Warder*: But finding the Castle strong, and those that were in it resolute, nor to yeeld it up unless by force, called Colonel *Stode* to his helpe: Both these joyned in one, made a Body of 1300 or thereabout. Being come before it, by a Trumpeter they summon the Castle to surrender: The reason pretended was, because the Castle being a Receptacle of Cavaliers and Malignants, both Houses of Parliament had ordered it to be searched for Men and Armes, and withall by the same Trumpeter declared, that if they found either Money or Plate, they would seize on it for the use of the Parliament. The Lady *Arundel* (her husband being then at *Oxford*, and since that dead there) refused to deliver up the Castle, and bravely replied, that she had a command from her Lord to keepe it, and she would obey his command. Being denyed entrance, the next day being Wednesday the third of May, they bring up the Cannon within Musket  
shot

shot and begin the Battery, and continue it from the Wednesday to the Monday following, never giving any intermission to the besieged, who were but 25 fighting men to make good the place against an Army of 1300. In this time they sprung two Mines, the first in a vault through which Beer and Wood and other necessaries were brought into the Castle: this did not much hurt, it being without the foundation of the Castle. The second was conveyed into the small Vaults, which by reason of the intercourse between the severall passages to every office, and almost every room in the Castle, did much shake and indanger the whole fabrick. The Rebels had often rendred some unreasonable conditions to the besieged to surrender, as to give the Ladies, both the Mither & the Daughter in Law, and the women and children quarter, but not the men, the Ladies both infinitely scorning to sacrifice the lives of their Friends and Servants to redeem their own from the crueltie of the Rebels, who had no other crime of which they could count them guilty, but their fidelity and earnest endeavours to preserve them from violence and robbery, choose bravely (according to the Noblenesse of those Honourable Families from which they are both extracted) rather to dye together then live on so dishonourable terms. But now the Castle brought to this distresse, the defendants few, oppressed with number, tired out with continual watching and labour from Tuesday to Monday, so distracted between hunger and want of rest, that when the hand endeavored to administer food, surprized with sleep, it forgot its employment, the morsells falling from their hands while they were about to eate, deluding their appetites now when it might have beene a doubt which they would first have laded their musquets withall, either Powder before Bullet, or Bullet before Powder, had not the Maid Servants (valiant beyond their Sex) assisted them, and done that service for them. Lastly, now when the Rebels had brought Petars, and applyed them to the Garden

den doore (which if forced, opened a free passage into the Castle) and balls of wild-fire to throw in at their broken windowes, and all hope of keeping the Castle was taken away, now and not till now did the besieged sound a Parley. And though in their *Diurnals at London*, they have told the world that they offered threescore thousand pounds to redeem themselves & the Castle, and that it was refused, yet few men take themselves to be bound anything the more to beleieve it, because they report it. I would Master Case would leave preaching Treason, and instruct his Disciples to put away lying, and speake every man truth with his neighbour: certainly the world would not be so abused with untruths as now they are: amongst which number this report was one, for if they in the Castle offered so liberally, how came the Rebels to agree upon Articles of Surrender so far beneath that overture? for the Articles of Surrender were these:

*First, that the Ladies and all others in the Castle should have Quarter.*

*Secondly, that the Ladies and servants should carry away all their wearing apparell, and that six of the Serving men, whom the Ladies should nominate, should attend upon their persons where so ever the Rebels should dispose of them.*

*Thirdly, that all the furniture and goods in the house should be safe from Plunder, and to this purpose one of the six nominated to attend the Ladies was to stay in the Castle, and take an Inventory of all in the house, of which the Commanders were to have one Copy, and the Ladies another.*

But being on these termes Masters of the Castle and all within it, 'tis true, they observe the first Article, and spare the lives of all the besieged, though they had slain in the defence at least 60 of the rebels: but for the other two they observe them not in any part: as soone as they enter the Castle, they first seize upon the severall Trunks and Packs which they of the Castle were making up, and lette  
neither

neither the Ladies or servants any other wearing cloathes but what was on their backs. There was in the Castle amongst many rich ones one extraordinary Chimny piece, valued at two thousand pounds, this they utterly deface, and beat downe all the carved workes thereof with their Pole-axes. There were likewise rare Pictures, the worke of the most curious pencills that were knowne to these latter times of the World, and such that if *Apelles* himselfe (had he been now alive) needed not to blush to own for his. These in a wild fury they break and teare in pieces, a losse that neither Cost nor Art can repaire. Having thus given them a taste what performance of Articles they were to expect from them, they barbarously lead the Ladies, and the young Ladies children, two sonnes and a daughter, Prisoners to *Shaftsbury*, some four or five miles from *Warder*. While they are there Prisoners, to mitigate their sorrowes, in triumph they bring five cart loads of their richest Hangings & other furniture through *Shaftsbury* towards *Dorchester*, and since that, contrary to their promise and faith, given both by Sir *Edward Hungerford* and *Strode*, they have Plundered the whole Castle: so little use was there of the Inventory wee told you of, unlesse to let the world know, what my Lord *Arundel* lost, and what these Rebels gained. This havock they made within the Castle. Without they burne all the Out-houses, they pull up the pales of two Parkes, one of Red-Deere, the other of Fallow: what they did not kill, they let loose to the world for the next taker. In the Parkes they burne three Tenements and two Lodges, they cut downe all the Trees about the House and Grounds, Oakes and Elmes, such as few places could boast of the like, whose goodly bushy advanced heads drew the eyes of Travellers on the Plaines to gaze on them, these they sold for foure pence, six pence, or twelve pence a piece, that were worth Three, Foure, or Five pound a Tree: The Fruit Trees they pluck up by the roots, extending their malice to com-  
mit

mit spoile on that, that God by a speciall Law protected from destruction, even in the Land of his curse, the Land of Canaan: for so we read, *When thou shalt besiege a City, thou shalt not destroy the trees thereof, by forcing an axe against them, for thou maist eat of them, and thou shalt not cut them downe to imploy them in the siege: onely the trees which thou knowest that they be not trees for meat thou shalt destroy*, Deut. 20. 19, 20. Nay, that which escaped destruction in the deluge, cannot escape the hands of these children of the *Apollyon* the destroyer. They dig up the heads of twelve great Ponds, some of five or six Acres apiece, and destroy all the Fish: They sell Carpes of two foot long for two pence and three pence apiece: They send out the Fish by Cart loads, so that the Country could not spend them: nay, as if the present generation were too narrow an object for their rage, they Plunder posterity, and destroy the Nurseries to the greater Ponds: they drive away and sell their Horses, Kine, and other Cattle: and having left nothing either in the Aire or Water, they dig under the earth, the Castle was served with water brought two miles by a Cunduit of Lead: and intending rather mischief to the Kings friends then profit to themselves, they cut up the Pipe and sold it (as these mens wives in North *Wiltshire* doe bone-Lance) at six pence a yard: making that waste for a poore inconsiderable sum, which two thousand pounds will not make good. They that have the unhappy occasion to sum up these losses, value them at no lesse then an hundred thousand pound. And though this losse were very great, not to be paralleld by any, except that of the Countesse of *Rivers*, yet there was something in these sufferings which did aggravate them beyond all example of Barbaritie, which this unnaturall Warre till now did produce, and that was *Rachels* Teares: Lamentation and Weeping and great Mourning, a mother weeping for her Children, & would not be comforted because they were taken from her, for the Rebells, as you  
 beare,

heare, having carried the two Ladies Prisoners to *Shaftsbury*, thinking them not safe enough there intend to remove them to *Bath*, a place then much infected both with the Plague and the small pox: The old Lady was sick, under a double confinement, that of the Rebels and her own in-disposition, all were unwilling to be exposed to the danger of the infection, especially the young Lady, having three children with her, they were too dear, too rich a treasure to be snatched away to such probable losse without reluctancy: Therefore they resolve not to yeeld themselves Prisoners for that place, unlesse they will take the old Lady out of her bed, and the rest by violence, and so carry them away. But the Rebels fearing lest so great inhumanitie might incense the people against them, and render them odious to the Country, decline this, & since they dare not carry all to *Bath*, they resolve to carry some to *Dorchester*, a place no lesse dangerous for the infection of Schisme and Rebellion then *Bath* for the Plague and the Pox. To this purpose they take the young Ladies two sons (the eldest but nine, the younger but seven years of age) and carry them captives to *Dorchester*.

In vaine doth the Mother, with teares ipreat that these pretty pledges of her Lords affections may not be snatched from her: in vaine doe the Children imbrace and hang about the neck of their Mother, and implore helpe from her that neither knows how to keep them, nor yet how to part with them: but the Rebels having lost all bowels of Compassion, remaine inexorable. The Complaints of the Mother, pittifull cry of the Children prevail not with them, like ravenous Wolves they seize on the prey: and though they doe not Crop, yet they transplant those *Olive branches that stood about their Parents Table*: A barbarous fact, and such as must look out of Christendom for a president, and hardly find it though amongst the Heathen, except amongst the unwashed Turkes, who take Christian Children from their Mothers breasts either to  
make

make a Seminary for their guards of Janizaries, or by defalation to make them Eunuches unsuspected guardians of their Concubines, or if in Christendome, amongst none but the Jesuites their brethren, a generation whom they would be thought most to hate, yet are knowne most to imitate. *Exod. 21.* To scale a Man was death by the Law of *Moses*, nay the *Romans* that saw by no other Light, but that dimme Sparke of Nature discerned the equitie of this Law, as is apparent in their *Lex Fabia de Plagiariis*: and though these men blanch the Inhumanitie pretending that they rob the Mother to enrich the Church, to bring them up in the true Religion, it were worth the while to aske (if they would vouchsafe an answer) what they mean by the true Religion, if they mean the Protestant, or to speake more properly the Religion of the Church of *England*, 'tis apparent they persecute that, but suppose (which wee doe not grant) that they did bereave Parents of their Children to that purpose to bring them up in the true Religion, yet cannot a good Intention warrant an unlawfull act, nor ought they to doe evill that good may come of it: nor doe wee find either that the Church was ever pleased with such accessions, or that God did give a blessing to such unwarrantable zeal. When *Sesibutus* King of *Aragon* in the yeare 660 prevailed against the *Sarazins*, and in a better zeal then this, but not according to knowledge, compelled his Captives to be baptized, he quickly found his errour by the want of Gods blessing upon his indeavours, nay Gods dislike was so visible in the successe, that the Church of God observing it, determined, That the children of Infidells not having the use and exercise of right Reason, should not be baptized *Invisu Parentibus*, contrary to the consent of the Parents. And the fourth Councell of *Toledo*, *Cap. 56.* dis-allowing the inconsiderate zeale of *Sesibutus* forbad to *compell any man to the faith under the sensure of Anathema*, & determined withal, that

that to baptize children without the consent of the parents, is all one as to compel men of full age to be baptized. The same determination is cited and approved by the Canonist. *Dist. 45. Cap. De Judeis*, and were it but consistent with the nature of this worke, it were easy to decry this Jesuiticall Turkish practice by most impregnable arguments, both in the Schoolemen and Casuists: but I must leave this to men of the sacred Function, and onely beg leave to inferre, that if it be not lawfull to baptize the Children of Jewes, Infidels, or Hereticks without consent of their Parents, though without Baptisme when it may be had there is no entrance into the Kingdom of Heaven, certainly it must be farre more unlawfull being baptized to take them from their parents to season their tender yeares with dangerous principles leading to Profaness, Brownisme, Anabaptisme and Rebellion. A just indignation against so barbarous practice hath transported me in this argument farther then I intended, though not so farre as the haynousnesse of the Fact deserves, therefore if any man desires to be more fully satisfied of the power and interest which Parents have over and in their Children, being an *Inheritance given them of the Lord*, as the Prophet *David*, and the possession of their Parents, as *Aristotle* in his *Politics*, and the great violation of Justice in relation of the Lawes of God, nature and men, in dispoysing their Parents of them, let him have recourse to that learned and Elegant discourse of *Petrus Arodius*, Chiefe Justice or President of *Anjou*, in his Booke *de Patris Potestate*, who being robbed of his Sonne stolne from him by the Jesuits, to plant him as a hopefull Impe in their Societie, and not able to rescue him out their power, though he implored, and had the King of *Spain's* assistance (for thither he was carried) pursues his Sonne with Arguments, and Labours to recall him to his Obedience by laying before him his dutie Artificially Collected and strongly applyed from the Lawes, Divine, Naturall, and

Morall,



morall, and therefore to him I remit him and turne my discourse into its proper chanel.

On Friday the 12 of May 1643. M. John Byker (sonne to the Vicar of *Dun-Church*) was with his Father in Law, one of the High Constables of *Warwickshire*, at the market at *Coventry*. Being in a house in the City, he received some rude affronts from a Souldier of that Garrison: He being a very civill man, of good moderation, and it seems well instructed not to answer a foole in his folly, or being reviled to answer againe, withdrew himselte from the place, to decline the insolent madnesse of the Souldiers, and free himself from his provocations: being come into the streets, secure, as he thought, from all violence, he was suddenly run through the body, and falling downe, dyed instantly. His offence was (for as yet wee can heare of no others) that he was a *Parsons* sonne; so inveterate malice to that function and all depending on it, doe these Rebels beare. And therefore if in this Relation you meet with frequent mention of Affronts, Oppressions, Plundering and murders of the Ministers of the Gospel, doe not attribute it to any partiality, as if the Relator were more querulous for them then others, but to a serious desire to proportion his labors in a just measure to the merit of each mans case.

Master *Abraham Haynes* of *London*, in *September* last, travelling into *Shropshire* to visit his daughter and some other friends, being benighted, was forced to take up his lodging in a little Village some eight miles short of his daughters house: After supper, his Host in a seeming way of curtesie comes to visit his guest, and brings with him two or three of his Neighbours, whereof the Constable was one, to beare him company. After a little discourse, they will needs perswade him that he is a *Malignant*, a hard word in those parts before this Parliament began, but however it served the Constables turne well enough to lay hold on him: having seized on him, they search him, under pretence that

he carryed Letters of dangerous consequence, but searching, they find what they sought for, his *Money*. 14 *l.* he had about him, this as good bootie they take from him, and for teare he should run away from his Money, that night they set a strong watch upon him. Next morning very early they carry him before a Parliament man, residing about two miles distant from that place, who most Committee-man like, out of the abundance of his Justice, though no crime were objected, nor any thing found about him to render him lyable to restraint, but only the sin of having 14 *l.* or because he was guilty of the Constables affirming him to be a Malignant, he commits him to his former guardians, by them to be conveyed to *London*. *M. Haynes* unwilling to come so near his journeys end, & yet not arrive there, tenders bayle, Gentlemen of the best rank and quality in the Country: but it will not be accepted: he desires to have leave but to send a Messenger to his daughter where he was that day expected, but it will not be granted: Away they carry him, they mount him and his man upon two poor Jades, while my Host and *M. Constable* ride on their Geldings. The first night they will allow him no supper, unlesse he will pay for it, though they knew he had no money, having themselves seized on all he had. Afterward, upon much opportunity & earnest intreaty, they are pleased out of his owne Moneys to allow him a poore thin allowance of food by the way. Being arrived at *London*, they bring their Prisoner before the Committee, who upon an implicite faith send him unheard, unaccused, unexamined Prisoner to the *Fleet*, where after he had laine six weeks, having made use of many friends, & presented many humble Petitions, and (it's thought some Moneys too) he is restored to his libertie upon this ground, that there were no Articles nor any accusation found in the Committee against him: but for his Money that (in the great justice and equity of the Committee) was bestowed upon his Accusers as a just reward of their zeale to the Parliament.

## Mercurius Rusticus, &amp;c.

## VI.

*Wellingborow in Northamptonshire miserably Plundered.  
 Master Flint a Curate murdered by a Rebel there. The  
 Rebels breach of faith at the surrender of Sudley Castle,  
 and their abuse of the Church and Monuments there.  
 Col. Purefoy's defacing S. Maries Church, and the Chap-  
 pel, with other Monuments in Warwick, &c.*

THat the Kingdome might not be undone but at their  
 Towne charges, sundry wayes and arts, both by  
 force and intreatie, have beene used to extort monies  
 from the Kings good Subjects to maintaine the pre-  
 sent Rebellion. Amongst others Master Gray of *Wel-  
 lingborow*, Clerke of the Peace for the Countie of *North-  
 ampton*, was assaulted by perswasion, and very earnestly  
 solicited by Sir *Rowland S. John*, to contribute liberally to  
 this unnaturall Warre: but his refusall to partake in so  
 crying a sinne, did produce a double effect, indignation in  
 the Rebels, that hate all men that runne not into the same  
 excesse of Treason & Rebellion with them, because others  
 backwardnesse doth upbraid their forwardnesse that rush  
 into Rebellion like the horse into the battell; but broue  
 forth imitation in others, not onely in *Wellingborow*, but  
 in some Villages bordering on that Towne: who seeing  
 so good a president of Loyalty, refuse with him to hearken  
 to so traitterous proposalls: and now thinking themselves  
 indangered by their refusall, and exposed to the mercy of  
 Rebell-Plunderers, they enter into a consultation how to  
 secure themselves from violence, and resolve to come to  
 each others assistance, at the Dragoons from *North-*

*hampton* or any else should assault them, upon notice given by jangling their bells: and that the world might not think their fears to be groundlesse, on the 26 of *December* 1642. at 12 of the clock at night, *Captaine Francis Sawyer* (and as is supposed a brother of *Sir Gilbert Pickeringes*) attended by 100. Dragoones beset *M. Grayes* house: and the signall of jangling the bells being discovered by some of the Towne that were of their Faction, to prevent the Alarme to the Country, they tye up the bell-ropes, and place a guard of twelve Musketeers in the Church-yard to secure the passage to the belfrey: having thus beset the house, and as they thought frustrated the device of calling the confederate Villages to their helpe, *Captain Sawyer* demands entrance, *M. Gray* out of his Window tells him, that he and his family were in bed, and withall desired to know what their intentions were, thus in the dead of the night to disturbe their rest, and what Warrant they had to command entrance: they return him answer, that they had a Warrant to apprehend his person, and seize on his Plate and Armes for the use of the Parliament: halfe an houre was spent in this Parley, *M. Gray* protracting the time, that perhaps his neighbours hearing of his danger might come to his rescue: which accordingly fell out, for some of the Towne hearing that the Rebels had beset *M. Grayes* house, hasten towards the Church, that by the sound of the bells (the signall agreed on) they might summon the Country: when they come thither, they find the way intercepted, a guard of Musketeers denying them entrance: but intriged to find opposition where they did not expect it, they fell foule on the guard, beat them off, took five of their Muskets, forced their entrance, & so rang the bells. Hereupon the Rebels, fearing that their entrance was delayed thereby to gain time till the Town and Country might come in to his Rescue, brake open a Window, and put in one or two of their company who presently open the doores to them and give them free entrance; having

having thus possessed themselves of the house, their first worke is to seize upon M. *Graves* person, to this purpose they make directly to his Chamber, whom they found in his shirt, and would hardly give him leave to put on his cloaths; and that their seizing of his person might not be without all shew authoritie, they produce a Warrant signed by the Earle of *Essex*, in which M. *Graves* name was, this they shew onely, but will not permit him to read it. All the monies and Plate which they found in the house they take away, and as for M. *Gray* himselfe having taken him prisoner, they compell him to goe on foot from *Wellingborow* to *Welby*: while they are on their way towards *Welby*, some 40 or 50 men from *Wellingborow*, armed only with Swords and Staves come to rescue M. *Gray* from the Rebels: after a short skirmish (wherein one or two of the Pursuers were hurt only, not slain) finding that they were unequall for the Rebels both in number and Armes, leaving the prey in the hands of the Oppressors, they retreat to *Wellingborow*: being returned thither, they find five hundred of the Countrey come in to their assistance: The common people (whose love or hate moderately) iraged that Master *Gray* should thus be taken from them, especially some of his poore neighbours, who in him were robbed of the reliefe which they received from his Charitie, resolve to make some of the Rebels Faction in that Towne sensible of their displeasure: and therefore since they cannot wreck their anger on the Rebels that did the Fact, they fall foule on those that did approve it, if they were not abettors and underhand contrivers of it: they breake their windowes, break into some of their houses, and spoyle their goods. Amongst the number of those that suffered under the fury of the people, a Chandler and a Cooper under-went the greatest losse, yet it could not be much, since upon a strict survey the whole spoyle done in the Town did not amount to 30 *l*.

Many of this assembly, utterly disliking such disorders, did not onely reprove the chiefe actors in this out-rage, but to dis-countenance their proceeding withdrew themselves : They of the Towne to their houses, they of the Countrey to their severall habitations : so that by the breake of day the Tumult was appeased and the Towne cleared. While these things were in doing, the Cooper and one or two with him post away to M. *Pernethe* Parson of *Welby*, a Turbulent and Seditious man, and make their complaint to him, and to inflame him that was too apt to kindle without their helpe, they doe not onely aggravate their own losses at *Wellingham*, but tell him that they threatned to come and do the like at *Welby*: M. *Perne*, (changing his black Coat for a gray) instantly goes to *North-hampton*, and there represents the injury done to their Faction at *Wellingham*, and the pretended danger of *Welby* so effectually, that by noone that Tue'day Colonel *Norwich* commanding in chief, Serjeant Major *Mole*, Captain *John Sawyer*, Captaine *Francis Sawyer*, Captain *Pertow*, Captain *Redman*, Captaine *Farmar*, Captaine *Harrold*, with 500. but others say, 1000. Horses and Dragooners, came to *Wellingham*: being come thither, they divide themselves into severall Troopes to make good severall passages into the Towne, thereby to keepe out the Countrey that were coming to their ayde, Captain *John Sawyer* with 80 or a 100 Dragooners enters the Towne at that side which leads to *Welby*: and riding in the Front of his men, marched directly towards M. *Neile* of *Wollaston*, and some few with him who stood to oppose him: *Sawyer* discharges at M. *Neile*, and whom he missed with his Bullet he would be sure to hit with his tongue, shooting out arrowes, even bitter words, calling him *Papish Kaseall*: but what reward shalbe given unto thee O thou false Tongue? he stayed not long without it, for the words were no sooner spoken, and (to second his words) a charge given to his Souldiers to give fire, but he received what he would have

have given, his deaths wound by a shot in the head and necke by Goose-shot, which made him fall on his Horse neck, which shot was seconded by a Countryman, who with a Club beat him off his Horse into the dirt; being thus beaten down, the women to revenge their husbands Quarrell fasten on him: but M. *Oliver Gray* (Nephew to M. *Gray* before mentioned) & M. *Woolaston* rescued him out of their hands, who otherwise had immediatly died the death of *Sisera* by the hands of women: reprieved thus for some few houres, they carry him to one *Gray's* house an Alehouse-keeper, whose wife was *Capt. Sawyers* Aunt, where they administred what they could, but in vaine, for after two and twentie houres Languishment he dyed: as soone as *Captaine Sawyer* was fallen, his Souldiers instantly ran away, only his son, unwilling to leave his Father, followed him to the hazard of his life by many wounds which he received. In other Parts of the Towne, the Townes-men quit themselves like valiant Souldiers & loyall Subjects, and with very little helpe of the Countrey kept the Rebels out: M. *Gray's* man and another, with each man his Musket, kept out above a 100 at the lower end of the Towne, and repelled them twice or thrice: and had not *Captaine Sawyer* comming to himselfe a little before his death, perswaded them that it was in vain to stand out, there being three Pieces on the way from *Northampton* to batter the Town (which proved true) and withall perswading them to write a Letter to the Commanders, promising that upon their submission the Towne should be secured, they had held it out to the last man: but the dying Captain prevailed with them, they write a Letter according to his advice, which as they say, was signed by his own hand, the apprehensio of his desperate condition having put new thoughts in him. But this resolution not being so fully made known to the Towne as a businesse of that concernment ought to have beene, some of the Towne, being ignorant of any  
Treatie,

Treatie, made some shot, and the Rebels willing to take advantage, rush into the Towne, put both those of the Towne and Country to flight. Captaine *Francis Sawyer* much enraged for his Brother, and coming neare the place where his Brother was wounded, seeing Master *Flint* the Curate of *Harrowden* stand there, not any way ingaged in the resistance, having not given any provocation, he barbarously struck him with his Pole-axe, and cleft his head downe to the eyes, of which wound he dyed instantly: the earth drinking up that innocent blood, shed by the hand of an accursed *Doeg*, which like the blood of *Abel*, calls loud in the eares of God for vengeance upon them who authorize and countenance such horrid Murthers; *Cursed be his anger for it was fierce, and his wrath for it was cruell.*

Being Masters of the Towne at three of the Clock in the afternoone, they begin to Plunder, and continue the spoyle untill the next day light failed them, untill Wednesday night. In this time they carry away the Wealth of the Towne to *Northampton* and other places, sparing none but those whose tongues were framed to *Sibboleth*, men of their owne Faction, whether they were active against them or stood Neuters: by which Essay those Luke-warme men (who stand pendulous equally poysed between Rebellion and Loyaltie, and know not which side to leane unto) may guesse what measure they are like to receive from the Rebels hands, if ever they come to have them in their power.

In the Towne, two men especially suffer under these Free-booters, Master *Gray* and Master *Fisher*; from the first, being Clerke of the Peace, they take away the Commissions of Peace, the Sessions Rolls, together with his owne Evidences and Leases, all his household-stuffe, even to his very bed-cords, leaving but one sheet for his wife and five children: his Wheat and other Corne they give



give to their Horses; what they did not eat, they threw into the streets, and trampled it in the dirt. From the other they took goods, and other things, amounting to a very great summe; and to compleat their wickedness, to their oppression they adde scorne; for having taken away all that they could, in derision they affix Protections in writing under Colonel *Northwich* his hand, at his and some others doores, forbidding any man to Plunder. Generally what they could not carry away, they spoyle, so that the losse sustained by the Towne is valued at six thousand pounds.

They took Master *Neile* Prisoner, and some forty more, amongst them they took the Vicar, Master *Jones*, a grave and learned man, but lame and very sickly, and having Plundered him of all he had, they mount him on a poore Jade, with a Halter instead of a Bridle; the rest they rye two and two together, and drive them before them to *Northampton*. Master *Gray* as I told you, was the day before led Prisoner to *Wibby*, from thence to *Northampton*, where his Prison cannot afford him protection from the fury and rage of the Souldiers, to make way to his death, they threaten to pull downe the house where he was confined: and the Commissioners finding that he could not remaine there with any safetie, were constrained to send him away Prisoner to *London*. Being come thither, Articles are framed and exhibited against him, which being examined at a Committee, and no prooffe at all made, he was voted to be discharged his Imprisonment: yet to de-  
clude Justice and the *Petition of Rights*, the Chaire-man could never find a time to make his report to the House, so that he remained a Prisoner for a long time.

On the 28 of *January*, 1642. the Castle of *Sudley* upon composition was delivered up to the Rebels; there were Articles agreed on and sworne to, but as he spake truly, *children were deceived with Apples, and Men with Oaths*; the Rebels as they sweare to Articles for their advantage,

so they break them as easily for their advantage, and make Perjury an easie uninterrupted passage to Theft & robbery, for these Rebels brake as many Articles as they swore unto: they Plunder not only the Castle, the Seat and house of the Lord *Chandois*, and *Wincombe* a neighbouring Village, to the utter undoing the poore Inhabitantes, but in defence of the Protestant Religion and vindication of the honour of God they prophane his House. There is in the Castle a goodly faire Church, here they dig up the graves, and disturbe the ashes of the dead: they breake down the ancient Monuments of the *Chandos*, and instead thereof, leave a prodigious monument of their sacrilegious prophaneness: for each part of the Church they find a peculiar way to prophane it: the lower part of it they make their Stable, the Chancell their Slaughter-house. Unto the Pulpit (which of all other places in probability might have escaped their impiety) they fasten pegs to hang the Carcasses of the slaughtered Sheep: the Communion-Table, according to their owne language, they make their Dresser or Chopping-board to cut out their meat; into the Vault, wherein lay the bodies of the *Chandos*, an Ancient and honourable Family, they cast the guts and garbage: mingling the loathsome Intralls of beasts with those bones and ashes which did there rest in hope of a joyfull Resurrection. The Nave or body of the Church was all covered with the dung & blood of beasts: & which was (if it be possible) a degree beyond these prophanations, in contempe of God and his holy Temple, they defile each part and corner both of Church and Chancell with their owne excrements, and going away left nothing behind them in the Church (besides walls and Seats) but a stinking memory that part of the Parliament Army raysted for the defence of Religion had been there. Let that rayling *Rabshakeb* or jeering *Samballat*, I meane the Author of the ridiculous Pamphlet, intituled, *One Argument more against the Cavaliers*, read this Story, and then tell me  
which

which are most guiltie of prophanation of Churches, the *Cavaliers* or the *Roundheads*; which were most prophaned, eicher *Saint Mary Maudlins* in *Oxford*, or the Church at *Sudley Castle*; and yet this dog flicks not with *Shimei* to barke at his Sovereigne and blaspheme his Pietie, as if the *heebels* brought from *Cyreneffer* had beene Quartered in this Church by his approbation, who to expiate that guilt gave an hundred and fiftie pounds to adorn and beautifie that Church. The truth is, there was a fault in the Commanders for lodging *them in Churches*, who if they had had their due, had been *hanged for Rebellion*, their Carcasses exposed to the *Fowles of the aire*, and the *Beasts of the Field*, that the *Ravens of the valleys* might have had their due portion, and never suffered them to come so neere the Church, as to have the priviledge of Chriistian buriall in the Church-yard. So, *even so, let all the Kings Enemies perish, O Lord, and let all the people say, Amen.*

In *Saint Maries Church* in *Warwick*, and the Chappell, (commonly called the *Earles Chappell*) adjoyning to the Quire of that Church, are divers faire Monuments of the *Beuchamps*, anciently *Earles* of that place, which Family long flourishing there, had bin great Benefactors & beautifiers of that Church, whereof *Thomas Beuchamp* (*Earle of Warwick*, and *Earl Marshall of England*, and one of the Founders of the most noble Order of the Garter, in the Raigne of King *Edward the third*) built the Quire now standing, in the midst whereof is his Monument, & adorned the windowes with the Pictures of himsele, his wife and children, which were many, upon the Sur-coats of the men were their Armes skilfully depicted, the women having the like, and Mantles, over which were the Armes of their Matches, their Husbands being the prime Nobility of those times: the like portraitures in glasse, but much more rich and costly, were in that stately Chappell before mentioned; In this stood the Monument of *Earle Richard*  
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being Brasse gilt ; and in the opinion of judicious observant Travellers esteemed the rarest Piece erected for any Subject in the Christian World : but such is the barbarousnesse of the pretenders to Reformation , that upon Wednesday the 14. of this instant *June* , the Souldiers by the appointment and encouragement of one whom ( in these degenerate times wherein the dregs of the people are made Commanders for the advancement of Rebellion ) men call Colonel *Puresey* ( a man of a meane desperate fortune, but by the meanes of the late Lord *Brooke* chosen Burgesse of Parliament for *Warwick*, & who had the greatest influence in seducing that unhappy Lord to this desperate Rebellion, in which he miserably perished : ) did beat down and deface those Monuments of Antiquitie, and not content with this , by the same Command they breake downe the Crosse in the market place , not leaving one Stone upon another , *Puresey* all the while standing by, animating and incouraging them, untill they had finished their so barbarous work : In which the World may observe that these men are the Sworne Enemies, not onely of pretended Superstition, but of the Ensignes of Nobilitie and Gentry, that if their *Diana*, I mean their *Parity* may take effect, posterity may forget and not read the distinction of Noble from ignoble in these venerable monuments of ancient Nobility : there being in these windowes something indeed to instruct a Herald, nothing to offend the weakest Christian.

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## Mercurius Rusticus, &amp;c.

## VII.

*Doctor Cox barbarously used by the Earle of Stamford at Exeter, contrary to the Law of Arms. The unheard of cruelties committed by the Lord Grey of Groby and his Souldiers, on the person, house, goods and servants of Master Nowel in Rutland-shire. Doctor Bargrave ill intreated by Col. Sands in Kent, &c.*

AFTER the great and happy defeat given by the victorious Sir Ralph Hopton to the Devon-shire forces at *Stanton*, it pleased the Commanders of His Majesties Forces to entertaine thoughts of Clemency towards the remainder of the Rebels. To testify to the world therefore that there was nothing more in their desires then a Thrift of Christian blood, and withall to heap Coales of fire upon their heads, to conquer them by kindnesse whom they had often conquered by the Sword: by their Letters they signifie their readinesse to close up those wide rents betweene them, by a Treaty. And that a Message of Peace might be well suited with a Messenger, they sent the Letters by Doctor Cox Doctor of Divinitie, who attended by a Trumpeter, came to *Exeter* that Sunday in the afternoone. The Trumpeter as the manner is gave the Towne warning as soon as he came within sight of the first guard, and presently an Officer came to receive him, who blindfolding him with a handkerchiete pinn'd over his eyes, conducted him through the Citie unto the Earle of *Stamfords* house: having admittance there, the Doctor takes off his handkerchiese, but accidentally did not dispose

dispose of the pinne that fastned it, but still kept it in his hand: the Earle he had no sooner set his eyes upon the Doctor, but presently he reviles him, and calls him all the reproachfull names he could imagine, and swore that he would hang him instantly: but first to extort a confession from him, he offers a Knite or Dagger to his breast, demanding an Answer to some Interrogatories: the Doctor not affrighted with such rough usage, replies very discreetly, that he had received commands to deliver certain Letters from the Commanders of the *Cornish* to those of the *Dorsetshire Army*, but that he had no Commission to satisfie any different and by-demands, this denyall to answer, *together with after dinner*, inflamed the Earle, and put him into a new fit of rayling: and for variery sake he did intermix the opprobrious names with many menaces and offers of stabbing him: In the end, seeing that this harsh welcome could effect nothing, nor awe the Doctor to make any discovery, he demands the Letters: the Doctor, that he might cleare his hands, and so dive into his pockets suddenly, put the pin which he held in his hands between his lips: hereupon one *Baxter*, a Serjeant Major of the City, observing the motion of his hand, but not perceiving what it conveyed to his mouth, cryed out, *What doth the Rogue eate there? He swallows papers of Intelligence*: With this, the Earle forgetting the gravitie and serious deportment of a Peer of the Kingdome of *England*, began in an antique maner to leap, and skip, and frisk, crying out, *Treason. Treason, he comes to betray the Citie, Courage my brave blades*: and so turning to the Doctor, he set his dagger againe to his breast, & demanded what it was that he had put into his mouth? The Doctor mildly and softly putting his hands to his lips, tooke the pin thence, and shewing it to his Lordship, said, *It is a pin my Lord*. The Serjeant Major thinking to intercept the supposed *Intelligence* going downe the Doctors throat, instantly flies to him, took him by the throat, and griped him so hard that he

he had almost strangled him. The Earl himselfe (most unworthily) crying out, *cut the villains throat, cut it*: nor did he command another what he would not doe himselfe, for with his owne hands he offered his knife thrice at the Doctors throat to cut it, but the Doctor stil put it by, God who is *a present helpe in trouble*, restrained the Earle, and delivered the Doctor out of his hands. Nor was it his hap to suffer from honourable hands only, the standers by are not idle, but follow so leading an example: as if he had been sent for from *Cornwall* to *Exeter* on no other errand then to be made the Citie scorne, and the subject whereon their wanton insolency should vent it selfe: every one in the roome had a sling at him: some with their fists beat him about the head, others scratch his face, one with his fingers boares his eares, to his extreame torment another with his fingers rakes in his mouth, hoping there to find some papers of *Intelligence*: one teares his haire, another forces his hand downe his throat, and the thing for which they make this strict search is *Intelligence*, some scrole of *Intelligence*: Sure there is much want of *Intelligence* in their owne heads, that made such strict inquisition for it in another mans. Well, they continue this pursuit of *Intelligence* so long and so eagerly, that the Doctor fainting under so barbarous usage, was ready to give up the ghost, and for feare he should dye under their hands, they leave him a sad Embleme of that entertainment which the Messengers of Peace find from the men of this Generation. Let that rebellious City remember and tremble at that condolement of our Saviour over the like sinne, *O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the Prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee*, I am unwilling to goe on and read her destiny, and therefore shall return to the story.

Having in this unchristian manner insulted long enough upon the Doctor, they divert their rage, and spend the residue of their fury on the Trumpeter, and having either before, in part breathed out their madnesse, or not thinking  
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the poore Trumpeter so Malignant as the Doctor, though they used him bad enough, yet they expresse not so keen a malice against him as against the Doctor Having satiated themselves by cumulating injury upon injury upon them, they are both commanded to an outward Roome, here they are assaulted by fresh furies, for they had not stayd long there, but two Alderman renew the same insolencies and act the injuries all over againe, and the very dregs of the people animated by their example bear them Company. After this the Earle Commits them to Prison, and being brought into the Roome where they were to lodge, they were stript naked, and their cloathes narrowly searched: and though after all this scrutiny nothing could be found, yet *Intelligence* is the thing the Earle looks after, and *Intelligence* he will have if it be to be had. And though the world never took his Lordship for a Physician, yet he prescribes two vomits, where his honour had his *Simples* I know not, but the composition was of a green colour, divided into two draughts, put into two bowles, these the Earl commands to be administred to the Doctor and the Trumpeter, that so they may vomit up those supposed Papers of *Intelligence* which Serjeant Major *Baxter* thought they had swallowed: the Doctor the chiefe Patient begins first, whom instantly they ply with Posset-drinke, having likewise some infusion in it to provoke and helpe on the Potion taken: all night long did they keepe the Doctor at this exercise, though they saw that what came from him came with great difficultie and Torment, yet they gave not off, till at last it drew blood from him: all the returne that was made into the bason was very exactly strained, to see if there were any ragge of *Intelligence*: but there was none: but in case it should work both wayes, (though his Lordship had many about him wondrous fit for such employment) yet whom he placed Sentinell for the posterne if any *Intelligence* should chauce to escape that way, my intelligence failes me. This inhumane usage brought



brought the Doctor so low, that in three dayes he was not able to receive any sustenance. In this his extremity and weaknesse, he had many visits from the people of the Towne, who like *Johns* comforters revile him instead of pitying him: and the third night as he lay very sick and weake in his bed, there came into his Chamber a man very likely to prove the messenger of death unto him, his name was *Downe*, Lieutenant to Captaine *White*, who presently asking for the Jesuite, and calling him Rogue, and as many base names as himselfe deserved, offered to lay violent hands upon him: but one of the Souldiers abhorring so barbarous crueltie, in meere mercy to a dying man, as he had reason to judge him, interposing, restrained him from acting those murtherous thoughts which he brought with him. After the Doctor had remained Prisoner five or six dayes, and having recovered so much strength as to hold out another worrying, he was, (with an ill intention in some) brought before the Councel of Warre, where upon the Doctors complaint of the hard usage he had undergone, some of the prime Gentry being ashamed of the cruelties acted on him, being a Messenger, and in that regard by the Law at Arms ought to be priviledged from all affronts, much more from such violent out-rages, Sir *John Northcote* indeavoured to palliate the businesse, and to take off from the odiousnesse of it, by alleagding the Contents of the Letters, which indeed being for some preparatories and overtures of Peace, might inrage these men that were Enemies unto it: To which the Doctor replied, that under favour, that could be no ground nor yet excuse for their savage usage of him; because they had beaten him, and almost murthered him in the Earle of *Stamfords* presence, before they knew the Contents of the Letters, or read so much as one syllable of them, or indeed received them, the violent Serjeant Major seizing on him before he could deliver them: This so unanswerable a returne, put the Knight to his Italian thrug,  
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and rejoyned no more, but *I know not That*. After a week (and more) imprisonment, the Earl commands the Doctor to be carryed aboard the *Hope* of *Topsham*, where the stench and noysome smell of the Ship had almost poyson'd him. The Doctors wife hearing of her husbands imprisonment came to *Exeter* to see him, but before she came her husband being thipt for *London*, on much intreaty she obtained leave to goe on Ship-board to see him, but on her returne she was imprisoned till her husband being under sayl, she had libertie to goe away. After ten dayes being at Sea, the Doctor arrived at *London*, where he was long detained Prisoner at the Lord *Peters* his house in *Aldersgate-street*.

The Lord *Gray*, with other some Rebels under his Conduct, came to Master *Nowels* house, Brother to the Lord *Nowel* that now is, demanding his person Prisoner, and his Armes for the use of the Parliament. Master *Nowel* modestly replyed, that he knew not wherein he had offended, that he should forfeit his libertie or goods to the justice of the Parliament: his house was his Castle, his Armes were his Defence, and his libertie was precious unto him, so that he could not satisfie their demands in any thing. Hereupon they plant a Cannon very neere the house, so neere that the fire of it took hold of an out-house that was chatched, this house though burnt down was not of any great consequence. Therefore they discharge again, and beat downe a beame of his dwelling house, but hurt no man within it; and making a third shot, they beat downe a Chimney, and the fall of it bruised the foot of one of his servants. At last, finding that Master *Nowel* was resolved to make good his house against them, notwithstanding their Cannon Battery, and would not deliver up his person to Captivitie, nor his house to their Plunder, they fire six of his Neighbours houses, in one of which there was a woman in Labour, by which meanes the neighbours were compelled to expose her to a probable, by snatching  
her

her from certaine destruction, for in the midst of her Throwes and pangs of Child-birth, they were faine to carry her in a Chaire out into the streets: having a while sported and warmed themselves at those flames, at which the poore Inhabitants wept and wrung their hands, they threaten, that unlesse Master *Nowel* will yeeld himselfe Prisoner, and deliver up his house to their pleasure, they will not onely fire his house, but will not leave a house unburnt in the whole Parish. This so affrighted the poor Inhabitants and Neighbours, that men, women and children, come with teares, and earnestly beseech him to surrender himselfe, rather than suffer them to be ruined, and utterly spoyled before his face. Overcome at last, not by the Rebels Ordinance, but by that which spake louder in his eares, The pittifull complaints and out-cries of his Neighbours, he sounds a Parley, the result of which was,

*First, That the Rebels should see the fire quenched.*

*Secondly, That all in his house should have libertie to depart whither they pleased.*

*Thirdly, That none should enter the house but Commanders.*

But this generation of *Truce-breakers* (that keep faith neither with God nor man, and break Oathes faster then ever *Sampson* did his Cords, whom nothing can tye fast but a Halter, the strongest Obligation for a Traytor) were no sooner entred the house, but presently they seize on Master *Nowel* and Master *Skipwith* as their Prisoners: and whereas by the Article of agreement none were to enter the house but Commanders, and since if the Article had been kept unviolared, there were like to be as many Theeves within as without doores; Therefore Commanders and common Souldiers, common Souldiers & Commanders, all Theeves, enter the house, and rife it. They take away his goods, cut the Ticks of his beds, burne the Feathers, teare in pieces his Accounts, Writings, and Evi-

dences, and *That* which we have not read in the black Catalogue of the out-rages of the Rebellious Irish, was attempted by these, for in the examinations upon Oath of those that report the miserable sufferings of the poor Protestants in *Ireland*, & the barbarousness of the Irish, published by Order of Parliament, we doe not find that God gave them up to so reprobate a sense, as to commit or attempt any Rapes; give the Devill his due, this sinne wee find not layd to their charge: But these blessed Reformers, whom they have not blushed blasphemously to call *The Host of God*, and *Christs Armies*, and *Champions of Religion*, added this to the rest of their innumerable wickednesses, that they attempted to ravish two of his maid-servants, one was dumbe but fourteene yeers of age, another had her knee put out of joynt, striving to resist a villain in so beastly an attempt. In a word, their practices were generally so wicked, so impious, that one that stood Spectator of all passages, & observed strictly what was done, affirms, that Master *Griffith* (whom some call Prince *Griffin*) was the onely civilized man amongst them. Having committed these inhumane acts among the Living, they goe into the Church among the Dead, and there deface a goodly Monument which this Noble Gentleman Master *Nowel* had erected for his deceased Wife: deeply wounding the living Husband, by spoyling that Memoriall which he had consecrated to the dear Memory of his dead Wife. Having ransacked all from the living to the dead, they carry away M. *Nowel* and M. *Shipworth* Prisoners to *London*, and commit them to safe custody in the Lord *Peters* his house (before mentioned) in *Aldersgate-street*, where they remained Prisoners for a long time.

Colonel *Sandyes* in his perambulation of *Kent*, bestowed a visit upon Doctor *Bargraves* house then Deane of *Canterbury*, the Deane himself then being from home. *Sandyes* came late in the night, and the whole family were in bed;

bed : they soone rayse the house, and where they did not find they make an entrance, forcing Mistrresse *Bargrave*, a vertuous good Gentlewoman (whom their hasty summons had permitted to cast onely her Night-gowne about her) to wait upon them from roome to roome, not suffering her to turne aside (though she for modesty sake requested that favour at their hands) to draw on her Stockings, unlesse they might stand by and see it done. They rudely rush into Mistrresse *Boys* her Chamber, the Widow of Doctor *Boys* Deane of *Canterbury*, a Gentlewoman about foure score yeares old, there they seize upon a Cabinet of hers, and breake it open, (though the good old woman would very faine have had it spared, and offered them the key to open it) they find in it fortie five pounds in old Gold, which she had layd by to bestow as Legacies upon her friends : this they hug and call their owne. She intreats them to forbear it, and directs them to her Will, which was laid up with the Gold, and in that they might see how she had bequeathed it. Upon perusall of the Will, they find that she had made Deane *Bargrave* her owne Brother her Executor, this they pronounce a Crime of so high a nature, that nothing could expiate the guilt, but the forfeiture of the Gold, and the Cancelling of the Will ; but by the earnest mediation of Master *King*, one of their company, at length they are perswaded to restore the Gold, and spare the Will. From hence they goe to the Chamber where young Master *Bargrave* the Deanes Son did lodge ; *Sandyes* valiantly breakes his Sword (which hung at his beds head) before his face, and calling him out of his bed, sends him Prisoner to *Dover* Castle. Soone after, the Deane hastning home to comfort his distressed Family, *Sandyes* heares where he was lodged at an Inne at *Gauf-end*, and as he was undressed and ready to go in to bed, *Sandyes* and 13 of his Souldiers, presse into his Chamber with their Swords drawn, and command him to yeeld himself a Prisoner, which the Deane (having neither

power nor will to resist) did accordingly; having (with out any reason given) brought him a Captive to *London*, they commit him Prisoner to the *Fleet*, where after he had laine three weekes, he was at last released, without ever being examined, or so much as called to the *Houle*. After this, *Sandyes* writes (I blush to mention so degenerate a Pamphlet) a book, and was not ashamed to call it, *His Travailes into Kent*, unworthy his Predecessors, to staine the Name of *Sandyes* with such Travailes: In this worthless commentary, the Register of his perpetuall Infamy, amongst others things he fastens the Note of a debauched drunken young fellow, upon young M. *Bargrave*, a Gentleman of so ingenuous a Countenance, so modest and sweet a Temper, that he deserves a farre better Character. The old Deane, a grave and Learned Gentleman, heart-broken with these Injuries, soone after dyes; the World in the mean time Condemning *Sandyes*, not so much for his Barbaritie as ingratitude in dealing thus with him, who had not many yeares before, beene a speciall meanes to save him from the Gallowes, when he was indicted for a Rape at the generall Assizes at *Maidstone*. But you know the old Proverbe, *Save a Thiefe from the Gallowes, and he will cut your Throat.*

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## Mercurius Rusticus, &amp;c.

## VIII.

*Master Swift Parson of Goodwich in Hereford-shire, his wife and ten children most inhumanely dealt with by Captaine Kirle a stony hearted Rebel. The Duke of Vendosme Plundered at Uxbridge, with other frauds and abuses committed by the Rebels, &c.*

**W**Hen the Earle of *Stamford* was in *Hereford-shire* in *October 1642.* and Pillaged all that kept faith and Allegiance to the King, information was given to *Mistresse Swift*, wife of *Master Thomas Swift Parson of Goodwich*, that her house was designed to be Plundered: To prevent so great a danger, she instantly repaired to *Hereford* where the Earle then was, some ten miles from her owne home to Petition him, that no violence might be offered by his Souldiers to her house or goods: He most nobly, & according to the goodnesse of his disposition, threw the Petition away, and swore no small Oathes that she should be Plundered to morrow. The good Gentwoman being out of hope to prevaile, and seeing there was no good to be done by Petitioning him, speeds home as fast as she could, and that night removed as much of her goods as the shortnesse of the time would permit: next morning to make good the Earle of *Stamford*s word, Captaine *Kirle* his Troope, consisting of 70 Horse and 30 Foot which were hangers on, (birds of prey) came to *Master Swifts* house; there they tooke away all his provision of Victualls, Corne, Houthold-stuffe, which was not conveyed away: they emp-tie his Beds, and fill the Ticks with Malt; they rob him of

his Cart and six Horses, and make this part of their theft the meanes to convey away the rest: Mistress *Swift* much affrighted to see such a sight as this, thought it best to save her selfe though she lost her goods, therefore taking up a young Child in her armes, began to secure her selfe by flight: which one of the Troopers perceiving, he commanded her to stay, or (holding his Pistol at her breast) threatned to shoot her dead: she (good Woman) fearing death waether she went on or returned, at last shunning that death which was next unto her, she retires back to her house, where she saw her selfe undone, and yet durst not oppose or aske why they did so? Having thus rised the house and gone, next morning early she goes againe to *Hereford*, and there againe petitions the Earle to shew some compassion on her, and her tenne Children, and that he would be pleased to cause her Horses and some part of her goods to be restored unto her: the good *Earle* was so farre from granting her Petition, that he would not vouchsafe so much as to read it: when she could not prevaile her selfe, she makes use of the mediation of friends: these have the repluse too, his Lordship remaining inexorable without any inclination to mercy: at last hoping that all mens hearts were not Adamant, relentlesse, she leaves the Earle and makes her addressse to Capaine *Kirtle*, who upon her earnest intreatie grants her a Protection for what was left, but for restitution there was no hope of that, this Protection cost her no lesse then 30s. It seems Paper and Inke are deare in those parts: And now thinking her selfe secured by this Protection, she returns home, in hope that what was left she might injoy in peace and quietnesse: She had not beene long time at home, but Capaine *Kirtle* sends her word, that if it pleased her, she might buy foure of her owne six horses againe, assuring her by his Fathers Servant and Tenant, that she should not fear being Plundered of them any more by the Earle of *Stamfords* forces while



while they were in those parts. Encouraged by these promises, she was content to buy her own, and deposited eight pound ten shill. for foure of her horses: and now conceiving the storme to be blown over, and all danger past, and placing much confidence in her purchas'd Protection, she cauleth all her goods secured in her neighbours houses to be brought home; and since it could not be better, rejoyced that she had not lost all. She had not enjoyed these thoughts long, but Captaine *Kirle* sent unto her for some vessels of Cyder, whereof having tasted, but not liking it, since he could not have drinke for himselfe, he would have Provender for his Horse, and therefore instead of Cyder he demands ten bushels of Oates. Mistresse *Swift* fearing that the denyall might give some ground of a Quarrell, sent him word that her Husband had not two bushels of Oates in a yeare for Tythe, nor did they sow any on their Gleabe: both which were most true: yet to shew how willing she was (to her power) to comply with him, that the Messenger might not returne emptie, she sent him fortie shillings to buy Oates. Suddenly after the Captaine of *Goodridge* Castle, sends to Master *Swifts* house for Victuall and Corne, Mistresse *Swift* instantly repaires to him, and shewes him her Protection: He to answer shew with shew, shewes her his Warrant, and so without any regard to her Protection, seizeth upon that provision which was in the house, together with the Cyder which Captaine *Kirle* refused. Hereupon Mistresse *Swift* writes to Captaine *Kirle* complaining of this injury, and the affront done to him in sleighting his Protection: But before the Messenger could return with an Answer to her Letter, some from the Castle come a second time to Plunder the house, and they did what they came for: Pre'ently after comes a Letter from Captaine *Kirle* in Answer to Mistresse *Swifts*, telling her, that the Earl of *Stamford* did by no means approve of the injuries done unto her, and withall by word of mouth sends to her for more Oates: She

perceiving that as long as she gavè, they would never leave asking, resolved to be drill'd no more : the returne not answering expectation, on the third of *December* two houres before day, Captaine *Kiries* Lieutenant, attended by a considerable number of Horse and Dragoones, comes to M. *Swifts* house and demands entrance, but the doores being kept shut against them, and not able to force them, they broke down two Iron Barres in a Stone window, and so with Swords drawne and Pistols cocked, they enter the house. Being entred, they take all Master *Swift* and his wives apparell, his Bookes and his Childrens clothes, they being in bed, and those poore children that hung by their clothes, unwilling to part with them, they swung them about untill (their hold-fast failing) they dashed them against the wals. They took away all his Servants clothes, and made so cleane work with one, that they left him not a Shirt to cover his nakednesse. There was one of the Children, an Infant lying in the Cradle, they rob'd that, and left not the little poore soule a rag to defend it from the cold. They took away all the Iron, Pewter and Brasse, and a very fair Cupboard of Glasles which they could not carry away, they broke to pieces : and the foure Horses lately redeemed are with them lawfull prize againe, and left nothing of all the goods but a few stooles for his wife, children and servants to sit downe and bemoane their distressed condition. Having taken away all, and being gone, Mistresse *Swift* in compassion to her poore Infant in the Cradle, took it up almost starved with cold, and wrapped it in a Petti-coat which she tooke off from her selfe : and now hoped, that having nothing to lose, would be a better protection for their persons, then that which she purchased of Captaine *Kirle* for 30 shill. But as if *Jobs* Messengers would never make an end, her three Maid-servants whom they of the Castle had compelled to carry the Poultry to the Castle, return and tell their Mistresse that they in the Castle said, that they had a Warrant to seize upon Mi-  
stresse

stresse *Swift* and bring her into the Castle, and that they would make her three maid-servants wait on her there, *threatning to Plunder all under the petti-coat*, and other uncivill immodest words, not fit for them to speak, or me to write. Hereupon *Mistresse Swift* fled to the place where her Husband for feare of the Rebels had withdrawn himselfe; she had not beene gone two houres, but they come from the Castle, and bring with him three Teemes to carry away what was before designed for Plunder, but wanted meanes of conveyance. When they came, amongst other things, there was a batch of bread hot in the Oven, this they seize on, ten Children on their knees intreat but for one loafe, and at last with much importunitie obtained it: but before the Children had eaten it, they took even that one loafe away, and left them destitute of a morsell of bread amongst ten Children. Ransacking every corner of the house, that nothing might be left behind, they find a small Pewter dish in which the dry Nurse had put Pap to feed the poore Infant, the mother which gave it suck being fled to save her life, this they seize on too. The Nurse intreats, for Gods sake, that they would spare that, pleading that in the Mothers absence, it was all the sustenance which was or could be provided to sustaine the life of the Child, & on her knees intreated to shew mercy unto the Child, that *knew not the right hand from the left*, a motive which prevailed with God himselfe, though justly incensed against *Nimrod*. But to shew what bowels of compassion and mercy are to be expected in Sectaries, and how far they are from being Disciples to him who sayes, *Be ye mercifull, as your Father which is in heaven is mercifull*, They transgress that precept of our Saviour in the Letter, and take away the Childrens meat and give it unto dogs: for throwing the Pap to the dogs, they put up the dish as lawfull prize.

Master *Swifts* eldest sonne, a youth, seeing this barbarous crueltie, demanded of them a reason of this so hard  
usagae:

usage; They replied, that his Father was a Traytour to the King and Parliament, and added that they would keepe them so short, that they should eate the very flesh from their armes; and to make good their word, they threaten the Miller, that if he ground any Corne for these Children, they would grind him in his owne Mill; and not contented with this, they goe to Master *Swifts* next neighbour (whose daughter was his Servant) and take him Prisoner, they examine him upon oath what goods of M. *Swifts* he had in his custody, he professing that he had none, they charge him to take his daughter away from M. *Swifts* service, or else they threaten to Plunder him, and to make sure worke, they make him give them securitie to obey all their commands: terrified with this, the neighbours stand a farre off and pittie the distressed Condition of these persecuted Children, but dare not come or send to their reliefe: by this meanes the Children and Servants had no sustenance, hardly any thing to cover them, from Fryday six a clocke at night, untill Saturday twelve at night, untill at last the neighbours moved with the lamentable cryes and complaints of the Children and Servants, one of the neighbours over-looking all difficulties, and shewing that he durst be Charitable in despite of these Monsters, ventured in and brought them some provision. And if the World would know what it was that so exasperated these Rebels against this Gentleman, the E. of *Stamford*, a man that is not bound to give an account of all his actions, gave two reasons for it, first, because he had bought armes and conveyed them into *Munmouth-shire*, which under his Lordships good favour was not so; and secondly, because not long before, he Preached a Sermon in *Rosse* upon that Text, *Give unto Caesar the things that are Caesars*, in which his Lordship said, he had spoken Treason in endeavouring to give *Caesar* more then his due: these two Crimes cost Master *Swift* no lesse then 300 l.

About

About Feb. 1642. the Duke of Vendosme being to return home into *France*, but resolving first to take his leave of the King at *Oxford*, obtained a Passe from the close Committee, that he might be free from any let or molestation in his journey, but notwithstanding this Passe, in his Returne from *Oxford* he was searched and Plundered at *Uxbridge*, by that worthy Knight Sir *Samuel Luke*, who was sent by his Excellency from *Windsor*, with a Troope of Horse for that purpose, That *France* by experience might know, that Thieves Rob as confidently in the Townes of *England*, as in the woods of *Ardena*, or any Forrest in *France*.

About December 1642. the Colonels, *Waller*, *Browne*, and others, marching from *Aylesbury* to *Windsor*, & thence by *Newbury* to *Winchester*, their Souldiers in their March Plundered every Minister within five miles of the Road, without distinction, whether of their owne party or of the other, whether they subscribed for Episcopacy, Presbytery, or Independency, whether they wore a Surplice, or refused it; onely if they did not, they afforded them the lesse bootie. Those that were Conhders, whose Irregularitie, and Non-Conformitie, armed them with confidence to appeare, Petitioned the House of Commons for Reliefe and satisfaction: it being taken into Consideration, that this was not according to their new Phrase to *weaken the wicked*, but the Religious and such who stood wel-affected to the Parliament: hereupon slandering the Cavaliers, with the fact which their owne Souldiers had done, and to make the *foolish Citizens bleed free*, there was an Order drawne up and published, That in regard the Petitioners were wel-affected men, and Plundered by the Cavaliers, that there should be a generall Collection made for them the next Fast day, and that the Preachers should exhort the People, and Pray to God to enlarge the Peoples hearts, bountifully to relieve the Petitioners.

But

But *Winchester* being surprized, and the Lord *Grandison* taken Prisoner, Colonel *Browne* in a Letter to famous *Isaack Pennington*, magnifies the Victory, and enlarged the glory of it very much by that Circumstance of taking that Noble Lord Prisoner, but which did much eclipse the honour obtained that day, in the Letter he addes, that by the treachery of Colonel *Urrey*, he was escaped : little *Isaack* had hardly so much patience, as to read out the Letter, but he Summons his *Mirmidons*, and gives an A arme to his Red-coates, the Messengers of his fury, and sends them instantly to Plunder Mistresse *Urries* lodging : It was no sooner said then done, they being as swift to act mischief as *Isaack* was ready to command it ; what they had in charge they performe faithfully, and Plunder her of no more but *all*. Mistresse *Urrey* presently gives notice to her Husband what measure she found in the Citie, while he was in their Service in the Country; the Colonel upon the Information hastens to *London*, to expostulate for this Injury, and for redresse, complains to the House against the Ring-leader *Browne*, and Rout-Master little *Isaack* : upon hearing both parties, the House quits Colonel *Urrey* from any conspiracy with my Lord *Grandison* or connivance at his escape : and for reparation of his losses, they order him 400 *l.* to be paid him out of the Monies collected the last Fast day for the Plundered Ministers, who by this meanes were Plundered twice : and so one order begetting another, they order that a new collection shall be made for the Petitioners the next Fast day : nor was this the first debt by many that have beene paid by the abused Charitie of *London*, the great *Tax-bearing Mule* as one justly calls it.

There is one *Beale* dwelling at *Hafely* (as I take it) in *Oxfordshire* : a man much devoted to the proceedings of the two Houses of Parliament, yet it was his chance to fall into their hands who *weaken the wicked* : some of the Rebels under the command of the Earle of *Essex* Plun-

Plundered him of two Horses : upon complaint made unto the Earle, he gives *Beal* command to attend him at *Tame*, and there he should have them again : according to the directions given him by the Earle, ( accompanied by his Brother ) he comes to *Tame*, hoping to have his Horses restored, being come thither, *Beale* is apprehended and committed to Prison, and his Horse, together with that which his Brother rode on, are both seized for the Earles use, nor can either Man or Horse be released, unlesse he will pay down 20 £. in ready mony : having continued in Prison foure daies, at last his Mother (for fear if she had rode she might have been Prisoner for her Horses sake, as her Sonne was) comes to *Tame* on foot and brings 20 £. with her to redeeme her Son out of Prison, upon receipt of the Money, being a debt so justly due and so truly paid, his Excellency released him out of his Imprisonment, and restored him the two worst Horses of the foure, and wisely kept the two best for himselfe, which with a very little helpe, may serve to explaine the mystery of his *Motto*,  
CAVE ADSUM : i.e. where I come looke well to your Money and Horses.

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## Mercurius Rusticus, &c.

### IX.

*Master Jones Vicar of Wellingborow, starved to death in Prison at Northampton. A Barber and a Maid-servant murdered by the Rebels at Wellingborow. Captain Venus abuse of Windsor castle, and his barbarous usage of Prisoners there, &c.*

**W**HEN I first entred on this Worke, it was a promise solemnly made, not to abuse the World with falshoods or uncertainties, but to use all Candour and Integrity: and if any thing should chance to passe, which upon better information should appeare false, I should not blush to make a free and an ingenuous acknowledgement. In these severall Relations what to retract or recall of the Rebels cruelties, I yet know nothing, but what to adde unto them I doe.

The sixt weeks *Mercury* told you of the Plundering of *Wellingborow* in *Northampton-shire* by the Rebels, and the taking of *Master Jones*, Vicar of that Towne Prisoner, and in that account which I there gave of him, I left him in Captivitie at *Northampton*: since that *Mercury* went abroad, some good body finding that Relat'on to come far short of that barbarous usage which *Master Jones* found from the Rebels, moved either with detestation of such inhumane crueltie not to be buried in oblivion, or out of affection to his person murdered by these savage Monsters, hath supplied the former defect, and enabled me to bring this Story to its sad conclusion.

*Master Jones* was a man very aged, being arrived at that Terme which *Moses* made the usuall boundary of mans life



life in his life, *Threescore and ten*, and had not these blood-thirstie men shortned his dayes by an untimely death, he might have been so strong as to *come to fourescore yeares*; and though age it self be a disease (which yet few men that have it are willing to be cur'd of) it pleased God to adde a casuall infirmitie to his naturall, for some two yeares since by a fall he unhappily broke his leg, of which he continued lame to his death. When the Rebells, those Locusts that devoure all the good things of the Land, came to *Wellingborow*, having ransacked the Towne, they took many Prisoners, and amongst the rest Master *Jones*: all that knew him must beare him record, that he was a man of a most unblameable life and conversation, an able Scholler, and extraordinarily gitted for Preaching, of which he gave ample prooffe by his Labours diligently bestowed among his Parishioners by the space of forty years: having him in their power whom they knew to be a great meanes by his Orthodox Preaching to keepe that Towne and some parts thereabouts in Obedience, when the rest of the Countrey were in Rebellion against their Sovereigne: they neither reverence his Calling, nor honour his age, nor pittie his infirmitie, but abuse him by scottes, and jeeres, and compell him to goe on foot a great part of the way (lame and weak as he was) betweene *Wellingborow* and *Northampton*: and that he might keepe pace with the rest, they compell him to make more speed then his infirmitie could brooke. At *Wellingborow* the Rebells murdered a Barber and stole away his Beare, and when they could not force this reverend old man to mend his pace, Lieutenant *Grimes* (a desperate Brownist, the master of this mis-rule, and the chiefe agent in inflicting all this scorue and tyranny on Master *Jones*, but since a prisoner in *Barbury* Castle) to see if feare would adde to his strength, forceth the Beare upon him, which running betweene his legs took him upon her back, and laying aside the intractablenesse of its Nature, grew patient of her

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burden;

burden ; and to the astonishment of the beholders carried him quietly, so that what was intended as a violence, became his ease. The Rebels overcome by so unusual an example of kindnesse, the savage Beare *reproving the madnesse* of their fury, they remove Master Jones from off the Beare to a Horse, but such a Horse as did but vary, not better the condition of his transportation. One of the rout observed to be excreamealy active in all these insolencies, and to have a hand in murdering the Barber, seeing the tamenesse of the Bear, as quiet under Master Jones, as if she had bin accustomed to the Saddle, presumes that it was *no more but up and ride*, and presently bestrides the Beare, who as if she had been of that race that did revenge the Prophet *Elifhu* quarrell, dismounts the bold Rider, and as if she had bin rob'd of her whelps, did so mangle, rend, and tear him with her teeth, and pawes, that the presumptuous wretch dyed of these hurts suddenly after.

Stay, Reader, suspend thy opinion, be not too hastie, I professe ingenuously the relation seemes at first blush to partake something of the *Romanse*, or at best to be but an imitation of some Popish Legend, as if we meant to implore the help of feyned miracles to gain credit to a partie : but against all this prejudice I must oppose, first the Integrity and qualitie of the Relator, being beyond all exception, and affirms it on his credit. Secondly, why may not God stop and open the mouth of the Bear now as well as the Lyons heretofore ? to revenge the indignities offered to a Minister under the Gospel, by the same creature, as those offered to a Prophet under the Law ? Or lastly, why may not the blood of him that owned this Beast, be required by this Beast of him that had his hand in shedding it ? This was not the first time that God gave commission to the Brute to execute his vengeance. But I forget my selfe ; my businesse is to relate things done, not to encounter Objections against their probability of doing. To goe on therefore

Having

Having brought Master Jones to *Northampton*, his entertainment there was as bad as his usage in the way thither: though it were in the depth of Winter, when old age needed good fortifications of Lodging and Dyer against the incursions of Cold and Wet, yet they afford him nothing but a hard mat, with a little straw under him, and to cover him and to keep him warme nothing but one Blanket and his own wearing clothes: As for his food, they give him the *bread of affliction*, denying his owne friends leave to supply him with competent dyet, to sustaine nature, and his growing infirmities: yet to shew that *Man lives not by bread onely, but by every word which proceedeth out of the mouth of God*, it pleased his good providence to preserve him like the young children in *Daniel*, fed only with Pulse, so that he was in good plight and seemed to want nothing, though he continued in this distressed condition from Christmas to almost Easter: about which time, not remorse of conscience for so much cruelty practiced on a decrepid old man, (but an Orthodox Reverend Divine) but importunitie of friends, prevailed with the Rebels to release him of his imprisonment in *Northampton*, and to remit him to a neighbour Ministers of his, one M. Walters, Bachelor in Divinitie, Vicar of *Doddington neer Wellingborough*, a very learned and industrious Preacher, and permitted him to Officiate in his owne Cure at Easter, there being but one Parish Church in the Towne, but no lesse then two thousand Communicants. Having licence to visit his Charge, not awed by that Tyrannous usage which he had undergone, Conscience of his duty doth presse him to a punctuall observance of the Orders and Canons of the Church: he Celebrates Divine Service according to the Book of Common Prayer; preacheth Obedience as boldly as if there had been no Rebels in *Northampton-shire*, administreteth the Sacraments with the same Reverence, Decency and Devotion, as if there had been no Puritans in *Wellingborough*. Nor doth the undaunted old man remit

any thing enjoyned by Canon or Rubrick. This constancy of his so incented the Schismaticall Puritanicall partie of the Towne, that complaint is made at *Northampton*, that *M. Jones* is the same man he was, as much a true Son and Minister of the Church of *England* as ever. Upon this information, he is apprehended in Easter week, and carryed Prisoner to *Northampton* a second time, where they use him with more inhumanity (if it be possible) then before; they will not permit his wife to visit him, and kept him so short in his dyet, not suffering his wife or friends to relieve him, that most barbarously they starved him to death, for about Whitson-tide his spirits exhausted, and his body pined by famine, the good old Martyr resigned his soule to God.

There is in *Northampton* one *John Gifford*, for his extraction the Hogge-herds sonne of *Little-Houghton*, for his education, a *Kitter*, afterward a *Hefe-buyer*, now Major of *Northampton*, and Colonel of the Towne Regiment. This man to his power Civill and Martiall, assumes an Ecclesiasticall Superintendency too, and orders what formes shall be used in *Baptisme*, the *Lords Supper*, *Buryall of the Dead*, and the like: When therefore they came to interre the skin and bones of this starved Martyr, for flesh he had none, the forme enjoyned by this *Gifford* was the same which one *Brookes*, a *London* Lecturer, used at the buriall of *John Gough* of *S. James Dukes* place within *Algate* in *London*, viz.

*Ashes to Ashes, Dust to Dust,  
Here's the Pit, and in you must.*

The World may in this see what devout Liturgies we are like to have, when a Major of a Towne shall suppress the Antient Pious Formes, and introduce rime doggerels, fitter for a painted Cloth in an Ale-house, then the Church of Christ.

Before I leave this particular Relation, I must not forget to tell you one act of these Religious Reformers: being

ing at *Wellingborow* at the Signe of the *Swan*, two Maid-servants making a bed. some of these Rebels did sollicite them to Incontinency, but the Maids refusing to hearken to their beastly solicitations, they began to offer violence, and to inforce what they could not perswade, they still making resistance, they shot one of them dead in the place, and shot the other through the wrist: such Monuments of *Religion* and *Puritie* do these blessed Reformers leave at all places where they come.

Master *Frederick Gibb* Parson of *Hartist* in *Suffolke*, in Morning Prayer before Sermon, desired his Parishioners to give attention to one of His Majesties Declarations newly set forth, with an expresse Command to have it Published in all Parish Churches, thereby to rectifie the people, and to wipe off those false Impressions which the Incendiaries of the Kingdome had made in them concerning the Kings Actions & Intentions: whereupon one Master *Coleman* a Parishioner being present, impudently replied unto him, openly in the Church, that he might be ashamed to abuse the people by Reading His Majesties Declarations unto them, and therefore he would fetch him some Parliament Declarations which were a great deale better to be Published unto them; while this rayling *Rab- sheek* reviled his Sovereign, Master *Gibb*, as it he had received the Command in that case given, *answers him not*, made no reply at all, but as not heeding this snarler, calls on the Congregation a second time to give attention, *Coleman* interrupts him againe, and in a scoffing manner, sayes, *well then Sir, you meane to be an obedient Servant to his Majestie*. Master *Gibb* then thinking it not onely seasonable, but necessary to professe his Loyalty, replied, *yes, Sir, I am, and hope to continue a faithfull Servant unto Him as long as I live*: and so proceeds to read the Declaration; the People notwithstanding all this Incouragement from *Coleman* to contradict with them, standing very attentive to heare it: The main drift of the Kings Decla-  
ration,

ration, was to assure all His loving Subjects, That as He expected that they should make the Laws the rule of their obedience, so He would make the Laws the guide of His government: Master *Gibb* having published the Declaration, *Coleman* stands up, and most Traiterously replied to his Parson, *well, Sir, the King neither is, nor shall be Judge of the Law what ever such prating fellows as you would have him*: after this, being enraged (as the rest of that Faction are) that the peoples eyes should be opened, or that they should, being truly informed, conceive of the King as he is, a most just and pious Prince, but still to look on him and all his actions through those false Perspectives of slander and falsehood which they hold before their eyes; *Coleman* speeds to *London*, and complains (to that Conventicle which call themselves a Parliament) against Master *Gibb* for so foule an Affront put upon them by publishing the Kings Declaration: presently (being servilely Observant to every base informer) they dispatch severall Purse-vants to apprehend Master *Gibb*, *be seeing the storme comming* (as wise men doe) *hides himselfe*, after some time of retirement (advised unto it by his friend) he goes to *London*, where by the great mediation of friends, and paying fees to the summe of 30 *l.* he was dismissed, upon engagement to be forth-coming, whensoever they should call for him.

There is none so insolent and intolerable as a base meane man started up into Command or Authoritie, we cannot give you a greater Instance, then in That beggerly Captain *Ven*, Citizen of *London*, made Colonel & Commander in chief of *windsor* Castle, who doth not onely assume to himselfe the propriety of his Soveraignes house, dating his Letters to *Iezabel his wife*, *From our Castle at windsor*, and building some additions to the Deanes Lodgings, as if he meant to set up his rest there, and make that his habitation: when no place in that Royall Castle is fit for such a Couple but the *Cole-house*, and even that

too good for them ; but as if there would never come a time to call him to an account, he doth use the Gentlemen and Souldiers taken by the Rebels , and sent Prisoners thicker, with that crueltie and inhumanitie, as if they were Turkes, not Christians , for the Gentlemen that are Prisoners there are not onely kept from Church, nor permitted to receive the Sacrament neither from their owne Preachers, nor from any friend whom they could procure to doe that office for them, nay , they were not permitted to joyne together in devotions in their private lodgings, but each man a part, and if this pettie Tyrant could have hindered that intercourse which every particular devout Soule injoyes with his God , this *Atheist* would have hindered that too. And because the sedentary Solitary Lives which they led there were prejudiciall to their healthes, they earnestly entreated *Ven* that they might recreate themselves in the Tennis Court near the *Keep*, and offered to be at the charges of a Guard , if those high walls, and the many guards about them were not thought sufficient to secure them , but yet were denied. Nay, when the *Sheriffe* of *Sussex* was brought Prisoner from *London* to *windsor* very lame, though his Chirurgion offered Colonel *Ven* to be deposed, that on the least neglect his Leg was like to Gangrene, yet after he came to *windsor* , he was forced to lye with the rest of the Knights and Gentlemen on the ground many nights ; at last , shewing his Leg to *Ven*, he confessed , that he never saw a more dangerous lamenesse, and promised to acquaint the Earle of *Essex* with it : and the *Sheriffe* himselfe being acquainted with the Earle, presuming on some interest in him, wrote unto him to acquaint him with his Condition, and earnestly intreating him that he might be sent to *London* and disposed of, though in a Dungeon, for a weeke , that he might have the assistance of his owne Physitian and Chirurgion, offering to give any security, & be at any charges to assure him of his safe Returne, to render himselfe true

Prisoner; but neither the sense of his misery, nor his earnest sollicitations could prevaile with his *Excellency*. And if the Knights and Gentlemen, who had money to bribe that compassion which they could not intreat, for and no better measure at their hands, what then, thinke you, were those heavy pressures under which the poore common Souldiers groaned? there were in the Castle eight poore Souldiers to whom the Sheriffe of *Sussex* allowed eight shillings a week: yet notwithstanding, because they refused to take the *wages of Iniquitie*, and serve under the Rebels Colours, and fight against their Sovereigne, they starved them, insomuch that being released, (that they might not dye in the Castle) coming into the aire, three of them fell down dead in the streets: three more recovered as farre as *Eaton*, where a good woman for five shillings a Weeke given for their reliefe by the Sheriffe of *Sussex*, gave them entertainment, and when the Sheriffe made his happy escape, he left them alive.

There was a poore man living neere *Moore Parke*, whom (when Prince *Rupert* was in those parts) commanded to shew him where the Pipes lay which conveyed water to the Castle, for this crime they apprehend him, and commit him prisoner to the Castle, where they fed him with so slender dyet, that they even starved him: and when upon his wives teares and lamentable cryes that she and her children were like to starve at home, while her husband starved at *Windsor*, they having no subsistence but what he got by the sweat of his browes, he was released, he was not able to stand on his legs, and whether dead since we have no Information.

There was at the same time in the Castle, one Lieutenant *Atkinson* prisoner, who suffering under the same want of necessary food, sent to his Father, humbly petitioning for reliefe; his Father, though a man of good estate, returned answer, that unlesse he would take profered

Enter-



Entertainment from the Parli-ment, he should lye there, rot, and starve, and be damned, for him: He finding no pitié from his Father, where Nature and Religion bade him expect it, petition'd the Gentlemen in the Kcep for bread, as many others dayly did, and on his Petition had monies sent him, but dyed starved two dayes after, and left this just ground to the world to make this Observati-on, That where Puritanisme prevailes, it cancels all Obliga-tions both of Religion and Nature, and never fails to make men guilty of that in which is in the number of those which the Scriptures tell us, shall heare wrath in the end of the world, the want of N. turall affection

## Mercurius Rusticus, &c.

### X.

*Master Chaldwell and his wife barbarously used by the Re-bells at Lincolne, and his servant murdered. Master Lesle, Parson of Wedon-Pinkny in Northamptonshire, his selfe and his Church infinitely abused on the Lords day by some Rebell-Troopers of Northampton, &c.*

**W**illiam Chaldwell of Thorgonby, in the County of Lincolne Esquire, and Justice of Peace, being an aged Gentleman, yet his Loyalty and desire to serve the King in his just Warres, made him over-looke his infirmities, so that he resolved in person to come to His assistance: To this purpose he provided foure horses compleatly furnished, of which the Rebells having intelligence, they surprize him and seize on his horses. In Februa-y 1643. some Rebell-Troopers came to M. Chaldwells house and demanded entrance, which he denying unlesse they could shew  
some

Some Commission from the King, they presently broke up his hall windows, and forcing his entrance, apprehend his person: yet his person is not all they come for, they begin to plunder his goods, and the first thing which they lay hold on, was some Linnen lying on the Hall Table. A servant of Master *Chaldwells* standing by, unwilling to lose any thing, if it might be saved, takes hold on the Linnen too, and intreats the Troopers to spare it: Presently some cry out shoot him, which was no sooner said then done, for one discharging a Pistoll at him, shot a Bullet into his heart, and the top of his scouring-stick into his body neere it. The poore man instantly fell downe dead, hardly by any motion expressing the farewell of life: While most stood amazed at so barbarous an act, some make towards him, thinking to help him, but were forbid by the bloody Villaines to come neere him, who were so farre from remorse for what they had done, that to murder they added theft, diving into the Pockets of him whom they had thus murdered, and robbing him of his moneys: Nay, his wife whom they had murdered, hearing of this sad accident, being great with child, came to see her dead Husband, but was not permitted to come neare him, being threatned by these Troopers, that if she came neare him, they should doe unto her as they had done unto her Husband, shoot her dead.

Having done their pleasure in Master *Chaldwells* house, they carry him away Prisoner to *Lincoln*, Being come thither, they commit him to the Towne Gaule, and lodged him there in the common Keep amongst Murderers and Felons: The day after the *Lincolne-shire* Rebels received the defeat before *Newmarke*, by a verball command from the Earle of *Lincolne*, he was removed from the Towne-Prison to the Castle in *Lincolne*, where he was put into a nasty stinking place called the *Witch Hole*, and without any regard to his qualitie, being a Gentleman of prime age in his Country, or to his age being an old man, they  
 permit

permit him to stay there all night, having no other bed but the Ground, and no other Pillow but the hard stones. The next day they vouchsafe him the favour to let him purchase a little and but a very little better accommodation by buying out some poore Prisoners out of their lodging: remaining there in this disconsolate condition, his wife an aged Gentlewoman came to visit him, being very willing to share with him in his Misery, as before she had done in his Prosperitie.

Having spent some time in mutuall consolation, and exhorting one another patiently to beare this unjust oppression, hoping that they might enjoy one anothers societie, in so meane a condition, without the envy of their oppressors: but even this contented misery did not last long, for the next day after the Rebells lost *Grantham* by the Kings recovering that Towne, out of their possession, the Governour of *Lincolne* (*Melden* by name) intraged, and not knowing where to wreck his malice, safer then on this poore old Gentleman, comes up to the Castle, and most imperiously commands that *Chaldwell* should come before him: the Messenger that was sent to command his appearance, returned with this answer, That Master *Chaldwell* laboured under some indisposition, that he was in bed, and his Wife with him: the Governour not satisfied with so reasonable an answer, snatchied a cudgell out of a Souldiers hand, and sweares that he would make the old rascall rise: in this fury away he goes to Master *Chaldwells* chamber, and rushing in, in a menacing way shakes his cudgell at him, and holding it upon his head, threatned to bastinado him if he did not rise presently, the good old Gentlewoman his wife, prognosticating by the rough message sent her Husband, that there was a storme comming, forsook her bed, and stood by it in her night-Gown, but bare-legged, there to interpose and plead for her Husband if occasion served: and now finding more inhumanitie then her feare at first suggested, in an humble manner she beseeched

seeched the Governour to use her Husband like a Gentle-  
 man, not like a dog, to be awed by a cudgell. The Gover-  
 nour impatient of any mediation, though from a wife, and  
 though backed with never so much reason, commands his  
 Souldiers to take her away, which they did in so rude and  
 boysterous a manner, that they dragged her downe the  
 staires, pulled her dressing off her head, and at last thrust  
 her out of the Castle. Being thus violently snatched from  
 her deare Husband, and fearing he might suffer as much  
 violence within, as she did in being thrust out of the Ca-  
 stle, she sits downe on a stone at the Castle gate, where  
 the winter blasts fane her gray haire, a sad spectacle to all  
 that passed by, and knew who she was. Many there were  
 that pittied her distresse, and would willingly have recei-  
 ved her into their houses, but durst not; 'tis a crime to  
 shew mercy where the Rebels intend crueltye. At last ha-  
 ving sate there long, full of teares and sorrow, baffled  
 with cold winds and weather, a sister of Master *Sit* is the  
 Apothecary (and the God of mercy restore it an hundred  
 fold into her bosome) sends her a Petti-coat (for they thrust  
 her out with no clothes on but her night-Gowne) to fence  
 her against the extremitie of the cold. But to let this cha-  
 ritable Gentlewoman know, that the rewards of mercy are  
 to be expected in another world, and that here to doe  
 good, and for that to suffer evill, is the recompence of this  
 world, that very after-noon her Brothers house was plun-  
 dered, and all their goods seized on, so that they needed  
 a returne of that compassion in the evening which they  
 shewed to others in the morning. *Welden* the Governour,  
 having compelled the good old Gentleman to rise out of  
 his bed, notwithstanding his pretent infirmities, sends  
 him from his poore lodging which he had lately pur-  
 chased, to the common Dungeon, where he had neither  
 light nor aire but what the Grate afforded. The place  
 was of such condition, that there being three Prisoners  
 with him in the same roome, but one of foure must lye  
 downe

downe at once, the rest must stand: and yet in this little case (as was testified by a Letter under his owne hand) he remained eleven or twelve nights without Bed, Chaire, or Stoole: and in that time, for foure or five nights, he was not permitted to goe forth to doe the offices of nature, a command being given, that if he offered to stirre forth they should beat out his braines. Thus much, and diverse other particulars were signified to the Commissioners at *Newarke*, when the Ammunition came from thence: At which time information was given, that Master *Chaldwell* was then in a condition not much better then what you have heard here related: and whether their barbarous cruelties and inhumanitie have not set an end to his sufferings by death, is uncertaine.

On Sunday the second of *July 1643.* in the afternoon, ten or twelve Troopers under the command of Captaine *Samuel*, came from *Northampton* to *Weldon Pinkney* in the same Countie, and coming thither in Prayer time, they came into the Church, one of them being Horse-keeper (as it was reported) to Sir *Richard Samuel*, father to the Captaine, came up to the Reading Pew, where Master *Losse*, Parson of that Parish was officiating Divine Service, and commanded him to leave off his Portage and to follow him: Master *Losse* intreating him in that Sacred worke, but to have patience untill he had finished what he had began; *Patience me no patience* (replied the Groome) *my businesse is of greater importance then to admit of any delay, come away therefore, or I will pull you out by the eares:* thereupon, not knowing whose Souldiers they were, nor of what consequence their businesse might be, or if he had knowne both, yet not able to make resistance, he obeyes his command, and followed him into the Church-yard. Being come thither, Master *Losse* demands what he would have with him: the Groome tells him, that he must goe along with them to *Northampton*, Master *Losse* demands

demands again, by what authority, and by vertue of what Commission? The Groome replyes, that he should know that when he came to *Northampton*: Master *Losse* intreats that he may be excused, alleading that he had lost twelve or thirteen horses taken from him by the Parliament Soldiers, and that he had never a horse able to carry him two miles out of the Towne: one of the Troopers swears wounds and blood, that he would carry him behind him, and if that did not like him, he would drag him along with a Halter at his horse taile. Master *Losse* abominating so great insolency from Groomes, boldly told them that he would never be a slave to slaves; and so rushing from them tooke Sanctuary in the Church, and shut the door upon him, and perceiving the doore on the other side of the Church open, the people having unbard it for their speedier passage out, he hastens thither, and though he made what speed he could, he was like to be prevented by one of the Troopers who was come about and was ready to enter the Church on horse-back: which Master *Losse* observing, tooke up the barre of the door, and resolutely ran at the Trooper to unhorse him: This unexpected resistance so valiantly made, put the Trooper to a retreat, whereby M. *Losse* gained time to barre the doore fast against him. Having shut both the Church doores upon himselfe, and the remainder of the Congregation, some being fled for feare; the Clerke at a hole gave him the Key of the Belfrey: Master *Losse* not thinking himselfe secure enough in the Church, gets up into the Belfrey, and locks the doores fast after him; being come to the place where the Bells hang, he discovers over head a little hole, only big enough for a man to creep thorow, and a Ladder standing there which led up unto it, Master *Losse* goes up the Ladder, and through the hole gets upon the Leads, and with great difficultie draws the Ladder after him, being massy and very heavy; by which means he did not only deprive his pursuers of the means to come at him, but with the Ladder laid  
over

over the hole baracadoed the passage against them : and now being here , had he had any weapon to defend himselfe, he had been impregnable. While Master *Lasse* was up in the Belfrey securing of himselfe , the Troopers are at the Church windowes, endeavouring to wrench out the Irons barres, but without any successe : at last, with their Pole-axes and great Tomb-stones, Impiously taken from the graves of the Dead , they breake open the Church doores ; having thus forced their entrance , they ride into the Church (not remembring they were in Gods house) from one end of it to another, spurring and switching their horses purposely to endanger the People. These barbarous out-rages did much affright the People, but especially Mistresse *Lasse* and her poore children , whom it most concerned, M. *Lasse* being the onely man aymed at ; Mistresse *Lasse* fell into a swoound in the Church, and had no shew of life in her for a long time ; at which the people moved with compassion interceded with the Troopers, and desired them to desist , putting them in mind of the place where they were , a place where God met with his People, and they with their God. It seemes this Congregation had been better taught, then to subscribe to Doctor *Twist* the Prolocutor of the absurd *Heterogenious Synod*, his Interpretation of that Text of Scripture, *Ye shall keep my Sabbaths, and reverence my Sanctuary*, In his Preface to Master *Meads* Book of the *Apollacie of the latter times* ; as if this Text enjoined no reverence to be used towards the places of Gods publike worship : they were much scandalized at this prophane irreverence, and made it an argument to awe them to civill demeanour at least, because of the place : and withail they objected, that they did much abuse themselves and dishonour their Cause by such out-ragious carriages : all this would reflect on the Cause they pretended to maintain. And lastly, they alleged, that if they had any thame in them, they might be ashamed, in the Lords house on the Lords day to abuse a  
Mini.

Minister in his owne Congregation, who besides the honour and reverence due to his Calling, might challenge some respect from them being a Gentleman of good birth, and descent. In reply to so good reason, (being indeed but *Pearle cast before Swine*) one breakes out with a great oath, swearing wounds and blood (so that all the Blasphemy is not on the *Cavaliers* side) and saying, *What doe you tell me of birth and descent? a plague take him and his Gentilitie, I hope within this year to see never a Gentleman in England*: you remember the Proverb, *Children and Foetus tell truth*, having thus despised all wholesome admonition, they goe to the Belfrey, they breake open the doore, and come to the place where the Bells did hang, and from the top of the Frames of the Bells indeavoured through the hole (but now mentioned) to get upon the Leades, where Master *Lasse* was, but he having stop'd that passage with the Ladder, and making the best use he could of his hands and feet (being all the weapons either offensive or defensive which he had) made good the place against them: yet notwithstanding in the Resistance he was in very great danger to lose his life, for they discharged their Pistols at him at least eight or nine times, but by the good providence of God they miss'd their mark, with their swords they wounded him in three severall parts of his body, yet God be blessed the wounds were not mortall, at last having received a hurt in his hand, having a veine pricked with one of their swords, his blood flowed so fast upon the Troopers underneath him, that as they brag'd there, and in other places after they were gone thence, they thought they had dispatched him, and therefore thinking him to be a dead man they left him, yet to imbalme him to his Funerall, they poure out a flood of reproachfull names upon him, calling him Rogue, Rascall, Slave, Villaine, Dog, Devill, making no stop till their master the Divell, and their owne memories could suggest no more names of the same stamp: At last, to scale up all,

for



for feare they had not murdered him, they protest with many Execrations upon themselves, that if they had not now sped him (which yet they hoped they had) they would returne another time, and have him either dead or alive.

At *Bridflow* in *Devonshire* there dwels a Husbandman (and though I cannot tell his name, yet let it not weaken the credit of the Relation) who not satisfied with the Parliaments proceedings in taking up Armes against their lawfull undoubted Soueraigne, stood in a seeming Neutrality: at last conceiving it time to declare himselfe, he openly adhered to the Kings party, hereupon he was very diligently sought after, and the Earle of *Stanford* sent a Troop of Horse to his house to apprehend him: When they came thither, they found not the good man at home, but a sonne of his, about ten or eleven yeares old, they aske him where his Father was, the childe replied, that he was not at home, they threaten him, and use all arts to make him discover where his Father had hid himselfe: the childe being ignorant where his Father was, still persisted in the same answer, that he knew not where he was: hereupon they threaten to hang him, neither doth that prevaile; at last they take the poore innocent childe and hang him up, either because he would not betray his Father, had he been able to satisfie their doubt, or for not having the Spirit of Prophecy, not being able to reveale what by an ordinary way of knowledge he did not know: having let him hang awhile, they cut him downe, not intending to hang him unto death, but being cut downe they could perceive nothing discovering life in him, hereupon in a barbarous way of experiment, they pricke him with their swords in the back and thighs, using the means leading to death, to find out life: at last after some long stay, some small symptomes of life did appeare: yet so weake, that there they left him nearer the confines of death then life: and whether the childe did ever recover, is more then my In-

former can assure me. Only courteous Reader observe from this short Narration, that these bloody Rebels spare neither the venerableness of the sacred Function, the infirmities of old Age, or the tenderness of Youth.

## Mercurius Rusticus, &c.

### XI.

*The particulars of the first Siege of Corfe-Castle, gallantly defended by the Lady Banks, and Captaine Laurence, against the Powers, Plots, and Policies of Sir Walter Earle and his Adherents, &c.*

**T**Here is in the Isle of *Parbecke* a strong Castle called *Corfe-Castle*, seated on a very steep Hill, in the fracture of a Hill in the very midst of it, being 8 miles in length, running from the East end of the *Peninsula* to the West: and though it stand between the two ends of this fracture, so that it may seem to lose much advantage of its naturall and artificiall strength as commanded frō thence, being in height equall to, it not over-looking the tops of the highest Towers of the Castle, yet the structure of the Castle is so strong, the ascens so steep, the walls so massie and thicke, that it is one of the impregnablest Forts of the Kingdome, and of very great concernment, in respect of its command over the Island, and the places about it. This Castle is now the Possession and Inheritance of the Right Honourable Sir *Jonn Banks*, Chiefe Justice of the Common Pleas, and one of His Majesties most Honourable Privy-Councell, who receiving commands from the King to attend Him at  
*York,*

Yorke, in Easter Terme 1643. had leave from the two Houses to obey those commands: After the unhappy differences between the King and the two Houses, or rather between the King and the Faction in both Houses, grew high, it being generally feared that the sword would decide the controversy, the Lady *Ranks*, a vertuous and prudent Lady, resolved with her children and family to retire to this Castle, there to shelter themselves from the storme which she saw coming, which accordingly she did, there she and her Family remained in peace all the Winter, and a great part of the Spring, untill May 1643. about which time the Rebels under the command of Sir *Walter Earle*, Sir *Thomas Trenchard*, and others, had possessed themselves of *Dorchester*, *Lyme*, *Melcome*, *Weymouth*, *Warham*, and *Poole*: (*Portland* Castle being treacherously delivered to the Rebels) only *Corse* Castle remaining in obedience to the King: but the Rebels knowing how much it concerned them to adde this Castle to their other Garrisons, to make all the Sea-coast wholly for them, and thinking it more feizable to gaine it by Treachery then open Hostility, resolved to lay hold on an opportunity coming on, to see if they could become Masters of it.

There is an ancient usage that the Maior & Barons (as they call them) of *Corse* Castle, accompanied by the Gentry of the Island, have permission from the Lord of the Castle on May-day to course a Stagge, which every yeare is performed with much solemnity and great concourse of People: On this day some Troopes of Horse from *Dorchester* and other places came into the Island, intending to find other game then to hunt the Stagge, their business being suddenly to surprize the gentlemen in the hunting, and to take the Castle; the newes of their coming dispersed the Hunters, and spoiled the sport for that day, and made the Lady *Ranks* to give order for the safe custody of the Castle garrs, and to keep them shut against all comers. The Troopers having mist their prey on the Hills,

(the Gentlemen having withdrawne themselves) some of them came to the Castle under a pretence to see it, but entrance being denyed them, the Common Souldiers used threatening language, casting out words implying some intentions to take the Castle, but the Commanders (who better knew how to conceale their resolutions) utterly disavowed any such thought, denying that they had any such Commission; however the Lady Banks very wisely, and like her selfe, hence tooke occasion to call in a Guard to assist her, not knowing how soone she might have occasion to make use of them, it being now more then probable that the Rebels had a designe upon the Castle. The taking in this guard as it secured her at home, so it rendred her suspected abroad, from thence forward there was a watchfull and vigilant eye to survey all her actions, whatsoever she sends out, or sends for in, is suspected, her ordinary provisions for her family are by some multiplied, & reported to be more then double what indeed they were, as if she had now an intention to Victuall and Man the castle against the Forces of the two Houses of Parliament, presently Letters are sent from the Committees of *Poole*, to demand the foure small peeces in the Castle, and the pretence was, because the Islanders conceived strange jealousies, that the Peeces were mounted and put on their Carriages; hereupon the Lady Banks dispatched Messengers to *Dorchester* and *Poole* to intreat the Commissioners that the small Peeces might remaine in the Castle for her own defence; and to take away the ground of the Islanders jealousies, she caused the Peeces to be taken off their Carriages againe; hereupon a promise was made, that they should be left to her possession; but there passed not many dayes before forty Sea-men (they in the Castle not suspecting any such thing) came very early in the morning to demand the Peeces, the Lady in Person (early as it was) goes to the Gates and desires to see their Warrent, they produced none, under the hands of some  
of

of the Commissioners, but in stead of deliverting them, though at that time there were but five men in the Castle, yet these five assisted by the Maid-servants at their *Ladies* Command, mount these peeces on their Carriages againe, and lading one of them they gave fire, which small Thunder so affrighted the Sea-men, that they all quitted the place and ran away. They being gone, by beat of Drum the summons help into the Castle, and upon the Alarme given, a very considerable guard of Tenants and friends came in to her assistance, there being withall some fifty Armes brought into the Castle, from severall parts of the Island : This guard was kept in the Castle about a weeke, during this time, many threatening Letters were sent unto the Lady; telling her, what great Forces should be sent to fetch them, if she would not by faire meanes be perswaded to deliver them, and to deprive her of her Auxiliaries, all or most of them being neighbours thereabouts, they threaten that if they oppose the delivery of them, they would fire their houses: presently their wives come to the Castle, there they weep, & waving their hands, and with clamorous Oratory perswade their Hu.bands to come home, and not by saving others to expose their owne houses to spoile and ruine, nay to reduce the Castle into a distressed condition, they did not only intercept two hundred weight of powder provided against a siege; but they interdict them the Liberty of Common-markets, Proclamation is made at Warham, (a Market-Towne hard by) that no Beere, Beeffe, or other provision should be sold to the Lady *Banks*, or for her use; strict watches are kept, that no Messenger or intelligence shall passe into or out of the Castle : being thus distressed, all meanes of victualling the Castle being taken away, and being but slenderly furnished for a siege, either with ammunition or with victual, at last they came to a Treaty of Composition, of which the result was, that the Lady *Banks* should deliver up those 4 small Peeces, the biggest carrying not above a 3 pound bullet,

bullet, and that the Rebels should permit her to enjoy the Castle and Armes in it in peace and quietnesse.

And though this wise Lady knew too well to rest satisfied or secured in these promises (their often breach of Faith having sufficiently instructed her what she might expect from them) yet she was glad of this opportunity to strengthen her selfe even by that meanes, by which many in the world thought she had done her selfe much prejudice, forthe Rebels being now possessed of their Guns, presumed the Castle to be theirs as sure as if they had actually possessed it. Now it was no more but ask and have: hereupon they grow remisse in their Watches, negligent in their observations, not heeding what was brought in, nor taking care, as before, to intercept supplies, which might inable them to hold out against a Siege: and the Lady making good use of their remisnes, laid hold on the present opportunity, & as much as the time would permit, furnish't the Castle with provisions of all sorts. In this Intervall there was brought in, a hundred and halfe of powder, and a quantity of match proportionable. And understanding that the Kings Forces under the Conduct of Prince *Maurice*, and the Marquess *Hertford* were advancing towards *Blanford*, she, by her Messenger made her addresse to them, to signifie unto them the present condition in which they were, the great consequence of the place, desiring their assistance, and in particular that they would be pleased to take into their serious consideration to send some commanders thither to take the charge of the Castle; hereupon they send Captaine *Laurence* sonne of Sir *Edward Laurence*, a Gentleman of that Island, to command in chiefe, but he coming without a Commission could not command moneyes or provisions to be brought in untill it was too late. There was likewise in the Castle one Captaine *Bond* an old souldier, whom I should deprive of his due honour, not to mention him, having a share in the honour of this resistance. The first time the Rebels faced  
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the Castle, they brought a body of between two and three hundred Horse and Foot, and two Peeeces of Ordnance, and from the Hills playd on the Castle, fired foure houses in the Towne, and then summoned the Castle, but receiving a deniall for that time they left it. But on the three and twentieth of June, the Sagicious Knight, Sir *Walter Barle* (that hath the gift of discerning Treasons, and might have made up his nine and thirty Treasons forty, by reckoning in his owne) accompanied by Captaine *Sidenham*, Captaine *Henry Jarron*, Captaine *Skut*, sonne of that Arch-Traytor, *Skut of Poole*, with a body between five and six hundred came and possessed themselves of the Towne, taking the opportunity of a misty morning, that they might find no resistance from the Castle. They brought with them to the Siege a Demy Canon, a Culverin and two Sacres, with these and their small shot, they playd on the Castle on all quarters of it, with good obervation of Advantages, making their battery strongest where they thought the Castle weakest. And to bind the souldiers by tye of Conscience to an eager prosecution of the Siege, they administer them an Oath, and mutually binde themselves to most unchristian resolutions; *That if they found the defendants obstinate not to yeeld, they would maintaine the Siege to victory and then deny Quarter unto all, killing without mercy, Men, Women, and Children.* As to bring on their owne souldiers, they abused them with falshoods, telling them that the Castle stood in a Levell, yet with good advantages of approach, that there were but forty men in the Castle, whereof twenty were for them, that there was rich booty and the like; so, during the Siege they used all base, unworthy meanes, to corrupt the defendants, to betray the Castle into their hand, the better sort they endeavour to corrupt with bribes, to the rest they offer double Pay, and the whole Plunder of the Castle; when all these Arts tooke no effect, then they fall to *Stratagems* and *Engines*. To make their approaches to the

wall with more safety, they make two Engines, one they call the Sow, the other the Boare, being made with boards lined with wooll to dead the shot. The first that moved forward was the Sow, but not being Musket proof, she cast nine of eleven of her Farrow, for the Musquetiers frō the castle were so good marks-men at their legs, the only part of all their bodies left without defence, that 9 ran away, as well as their broken and battered legges would give them leave; and of the two which knew neither how to run away, nor well to stay, for feare, one was slaine. The Boare of the two (a man would think the valiant creature, seeing the ill successe of the Sow, to cast her Litter before her time, durst not advance. The most advantageous part for their Batteries was the Church, which they without feare of profanation used, not only as their Rampart, but their rendezvous: of the Surplices they made two shirts for two souldiers, they broke downe the Organs, and made the Pipes serve for Cases to hold their powder and shot, and not being furnished with Musquet-bullets, they cut off the Lead of the Church, and roll'd it up, and shoot it without ever casting in a mould. Sir *Walter* and the Commanders were earnest to presse forward the souldiers; but as prodigall as they were of the blood of their common souldiers, they were sparing enough of their owne; it was a generall observation, that valiant Sir *Walter* never willingly exposed himselfe to any hazard; for being by chance endangered by a Bullet, shot through his Coat, afterwards he put on a Beares skinne, and to the eternall honour of this Knights valour be it recorded, for feare of Musquet-shot, (for other they had none) he was seen to creep on all foure, on the sides of the hill, to keep himselfe out of danger. This base Cowardisme in the Assaylants, added courage and resolution to the defendants: therefore not compell'd by want, but rather to brave the Rebels, they sallyed out, and brought in eight Cowes and a Bull into the Castle, without the losse of a man,



man, or a man wounded. At another time five boyes fetcht in foure Cowes. They that stood on the hills, called to one in a house in the valley, crying, *Shoot Anthony*, but *Anthony* thought it good to sleepe in a whole skinne, and durst not looke out, so that after ward it grew into a proverbiall jeere, from the Detendants to the Assaylants, *Shoot Anthony*. The Rebels having spent much time and Ammunition, and some men, and yet being as farre from hopes of taking the Castle, as the first day they came thither, at last the Earle of *Warwicke* sends them a supply of an hundred and fiftie Mariners, with severall Cart-loads of Petars, Granadoes, and other Warlike provision, with scaling Ladders to assault the Castle by scaladoe; They make large offers to him that should first scale the wall, 20 l. to the first, and so by descending summes a reward to the twentieth, but all this could not prevaile with these silly wretches, who were brought thither as themselves confessed, like sheep to the slaughter, some of them having but exchange'd the manner of their death, the halter for the bullet, having taken them out of Gaoles, one of them being taken Prisoner, had Letters Testimoniall in his hands whence he came, the Letters I meane when he was burnt for a Felon, being very visible to the beholders, but when they found that perswasion could not prevaile, with such subject low-spirited men, the Commanders resolve on another course, which was to make them drunke, knowing that drunkenness makes some men fight like Lyons, that being sober would runne away like Hares. To this purpose they fill them with strong waters, even to madness, and ready they are now for any designe, and for feare Sir *Walter* should be valiant against his will, like *Cesar*, he was the onely man almost that came sober to the assault: an imitation of the Turkish practice, (for certainly there can be nothing of Christianitie in it, to send poore soules to Gods Judgement Seat, in the very act of two grievous sins, *Rebellion & Drunkenness*) who to stupifie their Souldiers, and  
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make them insensible of their dangers, give them *Opium*; being now armed with drinke, they resolve to storme the Castle on all sides, and apply their scalding Ladders, it being ordered by the Leaders, (if I may without a Solecism call them so, that stood behind and did not so much as follow) that when twentie were entred, they should give a watch-word to the rest, and that was *Old Wat*: a word ill chosen, by *Sir W. Earle*, and considering the businesse in hand, little better then ominous, for if I be not deceived, the Hunters that beat bushes for the fearfull timorous Hare, call him *Old Wat*.

Being now Pot valiant, and possessed with a borrowed courage, which was to Evaporate in sleepe, they divide their Forces into two Parties, whereof one assaults the Middle ward, defended by valiant Captain *Lawrence*, and the greater part of the Souldiers; the other assault the Upper ward, which the Lady *Banks* (to her eternall honour be it spoken) with her daughters, women, and five Souldiers, undertooke to make good against the Rebels, and did bravely performe what she undertooke; for by heaving over stones & hot embers they repelled the Rebels, and kept them from climbing their Ladders, thence to throw in that wild-fire, which every Rebell had ready in his hand. Being repelled, and having in this Siege and this Assault lost and hurt an hundred men, *Old Sir Wat*, hearing the Kings Forces were advanced, cryed, and ran away crying, leaving *Sydenham* to Command in Chief, to bring off the Ordnance, Ammunition, and the remainder of the Army, who afraid to appeare abroad kept Sanctuary in the Church till night, meaning to sup and run away by Star-light; but supper being ready, and set on the Table, an Alarme was given that the Kings Forces were comming; this newes took away *Sydenhams* stomach; all this provision was but *messes of meat set before the Sepulchres of the dead*; he leaves his Artillery, Ammunition, and (which with these men is something) a good supper, and  
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ran away to take Boat for *Poo'e*, leaving likewise at the shoare about an hundred Horse to the next Takers, which next day proved good prize to the Souldiers of the Castle. Thus after six weekes strict Siege, this Castle, the desire of the Rebells, the teares of *Old Sir Rat*, and the Key of those parts, by the Loyaltie, and brave resolution of this honourable Lady, the valour of Captaine *Lawrence* and some eightie Souldiers, (by the losse only of two men) was delivered from the bloody intentions of these mercilless Rebels on the 4. of *August* 1643.

## Mercurius Rusticus, &c.

### XII.

*Master Thomas Jones, Batchelor in Divinitie, ill-intreated by the Rebells in Devon. A Souldier banged at Tame on the sign-post of the Kings head. Master Wright, a Minister in Cheshire Plundered, and two of his Maid-servants murdered. Doctor Beale, Doctor Martin, and Doctor Sterne, brought Prisoners from Cambridge by Cromwel, and their barbarous usage, &c.*

**M**After *Thomas Jones*, Batchelor in Divinitie, and Rector of *Offwell* in the Countie of *Devon*, having discovered that the right of Patronage of one of the Cures of *Tuifordton* was in the Crowne, and worth three hundred pounds *per annum*, did in the pursuance of this Right, spend a thousand pounds to recover it from those, who account all lawfull gaine whatsoever they can purloine either from God or the King. The pretended Patrons, who had invaded this Right, were much offended with *Master Jones* for being at so great expence to redeeme the prey out of their hands, and did but watch an

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Opportunitie to make him know how sensible they were of this their losse. This Parliament being called, and these men made Members of the Lower House, they quickly perceived that this wished-for opportunity was now come, wherein they might pervert publique justice to private revenge, quickly learning to exercise that Arbitrary unlimited power over their fellow Subjects, which the prevalency of a dangerous faction had put into their hands. According to the general practice since this Parliament, they accuse Master *Jones* of some Anti-parliamentary passages in his Sermon, which his Judges understood as little as his Accusers: Nay perhaps it was with him (as with many of his Orthodox Brethren) the same men were both his Accusers and Judges. However any or no accusation we know have served these mensturnes, to bring Godly and Learned Ministers to the Beare-bayting of a Committee, and to put them into the expensive custody of a Serjeant at Armes: so it was with Master *Jones*, they first pretended some Crimes, and on these pretences they commit him prisoner to a Serjeant at Armes. Having deprived him of his Libertie, and put him into a consumption of his estate by the unreasonable unlimited exactions of Parliament-Gaolers, they then think him reduced to such a condition as to be willing to hearken to a Composition, on any termes. At last, vexed to an agreement, he is to enjoy his Libertie and Peace on this mutuall stipulation: They are to pardon him the error of his doctrine, to deliver up his bayle, being with two sureties Parliament men bound in a Bond of two thousand pounds, and to give him two hundred pounds towards his charges. Master *Jones* must resigne his lately recovered Cure at *Tuisfordton* to make way for a Clerke of their owne: which to avoid farther molestation, to his very great prejudice, he was inforced to condescend unto. After, in September, 1643. Master *Jones* riding to *Taunton* in *Somerset-shire*, accompanied by one of the Prince his servants, who wore his

his Masters Colours, was for that reason, together with that Gentleman, immediately after his departure from thence, apprehended, and like a Felon brought backe to the Castle, where he remained Prisoner three weeks, and could not be released without the earnest solicitation of his friends, and his Wives humble and often petitioning the Earle of *Bedford*. In *November* last, suffering under continuall molestations, and out of all hope to live peaceably at home, he resolved to put himself under the protection of Sir *Ralph Hoptons* Army then in *Cornwall*. To this purpose he furnished three Horses and Arms proportionable, and set forward to deliver them up for His Majesties service: but unhappily in the way thither he was intercepted by the Earle of *Stamfords* Forces, under the command of Captaine *Gould*, taken Prisoner, robb'd to the value of 80. *l.* the Plunderers leaving him not so much as a Boot to ride in. By these he is led Captive to *Liskard* in *Cornwall*, where they kept him three dayes, in which time he and another Minister with him, with his servant, had but one pint of Beere for their sustenance, being kept without either fire or light, and for one night had their hands bound behind them, and had st'ill been kept in the like bondage, had not God in mercy rescued them by Sir *Ralph Hopton*, after the famous battle of *Liskard*: During the time of their imprisonment, they offer them Conditions on which they may purchase their libertie; viz. to pay three hundred pound; to take an Oath never any more to assist the King with Horse, Armes, or Money: But being delivered on far better termes he was not long after imprisoned for giving God publique thanks for his deliverance. Afterwards, seeing that Religion if selfe was but abused, being made the Cloake of these mens Hypocrisie and Treasons, and that they did fast but to strife & debate, he did not observe the Fast every last wednesday in the moneth, with that strict observation as was expected from him by that Faction, hereupon some of them

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put him in mind of it: Good-Friday coming on presently, upon the last Wednesday in *Apr.* he desired his Neighbours and Parishioners to keepe that ancient Fast enjoyned by the Church, in Commemoration of the bitter Death and Passion of Christ; and the better to invite them to that dayes solemne Humiliation, he Preached to them twice that day. Though Sermons be all their Religion, yet two Sermons on Good Friday are with these men no better then Superstition: For, for this contempt (as they interpreted it) of the Parliament Fast, not letting so high an estimat on on it as on this *Cablike Fast of Good Friday* (received and practised by all Churches in all Ages, till of late a Jewish observat of one day hath shouldred out the religious observat of all other dayes) he was convented before the Sessons, where *Edmund Prideaux* a Parliament man, and a pretender to this Law, prest this his obedience to the Church most violently against him; maliciously affirming, that he did it to affront the Parliament, & to advance Popish Superstition, and Innovat, and that therefore *He* (see what it is to be a Parliament man) would make him an *Example* to the world, and as the times then were (God, as he threatned Israel *provoking us by foolish people*) was like enough to have done it, had not *M. Iones* prevented him by withdrawing himselfe, and so declined the evill intended against him. Yet we may not omit one thing: though it were so heinous a Crime in *M. Iones* not to observe one of their Wednesdayes Fasts, yet *M. Darke* Minister of *Musbury* in the same County, and a man of that Faction, could command his men to follow the Plough that day, and yet was never thought fit of a Reprehension, nor so much as a Brotherly Admonition: and no wonder, for though heretofore *Actions* did *Qualifie persons*, and *denominate* them, by the Sectaries new Divinitie they make *persons* to *Qualifie Actions*; those things which are sinnes in others lose their *Nature* and their *Name* in a Child of God, and they will take it very

ill from you not to be so reputed, though living in the most notorious scandalous sinnes that dehle the soule, and lay waste the Conscience of Man. But to returne to our Story.

From the beginning of this Parliament (till God, by the glorious and no lesse then miraculous Victories of Sir *Ralph Hopton*, restored some Peace to that miserably distracted Country) Master *Jones* was not permitted to live quietly at his owne dwelling, they threaten to hang him, and burne his house, which they Plundered no lesse then seven times: and not content with this, they threaten to carry away his aged Father Prisoner, being no lesse then 86 yeares of age; and had beene as good as their word, (for in mischiefe they seldome faile of their promises) had not the Women of the Parish (in detestation of so great barbarisme) rescued him out of their hands: After that memorable defeat of the Rebels at *Siraisson* in the edge of *Cornwall* by the brave Sir *Ralph Hopton*, M. *Jones* returned to his own house, fearing no danger from the fitters of that broken Army; but four Troopets of the Rebels horse came to his house, searched it very narrowly for him, insomuch that he heard them sweare, how cruelly they would use that Cavaliering Priest, if they could meet with him, when they were nearer him then they were aware of, (had they known it) there being but an Inch board between him & them: at which time missing of the intended Prey, they wreck their malice on his houthould stuffe, what they could not carry away they spoyle: Beds, Bed-Reeds, Hangings, all are torn and spoyled: They Plunder the Maid'servants, and that of their Smocks, and exchange in their very presence their lowzie shirts for their cleane Linnea: Hereupon M. *Jones* finding by experience (that there was no safetie out of one of the Kings Armies (the only Protection which the King is able for the present to afford His good Subjects) he put himselfe under the Protection of Sir *Ralph Hopton's* Army, where he now remains.

While

While the Rebells Army lay at *Tame* sending out parties, by chance they lighted on some of the Kings Souldiers, and amongst them there was one, who touched in conscience for so grievous a sin, as lifting up his hand against his lawfull Sovereign, the Lords Annoynted, forsook the Rebells Army, and was entertained in his Majesties pay: and being in their power they resolve instantly to hang him: but with such Circumstances as in the murder of the Subject they evidently manifest their malicious rebellious hearts towards their Sovereign. Nothing will serue to hang him on, but the signe post of the *Kings Head* in *Tame*; the poore man being ready to be throwne from the Ladder, Prayed very fervently, and cryed out *Lord Iesus receive my Soule*. The Rebells standing about him, instead of joyning with him in his devotions made a confused noyse, and laughed at him. They that had so little mercy for his Soule were not likely to draw out any bowells of Compassion towards his body. No, they will not only Murther him, but Murther him by a lingring Torment, they will not afford him the favour of a running knot quickly to obstruct the Throat, and totally deprive him of breath, but the halter is tyed so fast, that he hanged gasping for breath, not drawing so much as to maintaine life, nor so little as suddenly to lose it: having in this Torment hanged a while, a barbarous Inhuman *Villaine*, stept to him, & fearing he should give up his vexed Ghost too soone, he puts his hands under his feet and lifted him up to give him some scope of Respiration, but even in this unchristian usage of a poore wretch he did not forget to *blaspheme* his Lord and King: for having lifted him up, he turned the dying mans face towards the sign it selfe of the *Kings head*: and jeering said, *Nay, Sir, you must speake one word with the King before you goe, you are blind-fold, and he cannot see, and by and by you shall both come downe together*: Let the world if it can now give us a parrallel of so undutifull, so high a contempt of regal authority, or tell



us whether any of the severall Spawns of Hell but only an Atheisticall Puritan could possibly commit such devilish Cruelties against his fellow Subject, or belch out such venom against his Sovereigne? Amongst those many Sins which call for our publique Humiliation, and our earnest zeal to purge the Land from the guilt which hath polluted it, certainly Contempt and Scorne of so good, so gracious a King, is none of the least.

On Monday the 29 of *May* 1643. a boy of five or six years of age, attended by a youth, was coming to *Oxford* to his father an officer in the Kings Army, passing through *Buckinghamshire*, he fell into the hands of some Troopers of Colonel *Goodwins* Regiment, who not onely Pillaged him of the cloathes which he brought with him, but tooke his doublet off his back, and would have taken away his hat and boots, if the youth that attended on him had not very earnestly interceded for them to save them. For one of the company, more tender-hearted then the rest, moved with the childs cryes & affrightment, and with the youths earnest intreatie, prevailed with the rest not to rob the child of these necessary fences from the injury of wind and weather. Yet though they spare him these things, they rob him of his horse, and leave the poore child to a tedious long journey on foot: This barbarisme to a poore child farre from his friends, almost distracted with feare, so prevailed with some, that they made Colonel *Goodwin* and Sir *Robert Pye* acquainted with it, hoping to find them sensible of so cruell practices on a poore child: but these great Professors and Champions of Religion, onely laughed at the Relation, without giving any redresse to the childs injuries. This want of Justice in the Commanders, animated the Souldiers to prosecute their villanies to a greater height: for that night they came to the place where the child lay, and the poore Soule being in bed fast a sleepe, his Innocent rest not disturbed with the injuries of the day: they dived into his,

and his attendants pockets, rob'd them of all their monyes, and left them either to borrow more, or beg for sustenance in their journey to Oxford.

Captaine *Duckensfeld* a Commander of the Rebels in Cheshire, came to *M. Wrights* house, Parson of Wemslow in that County, a man of fourescore yeares of age, of a very honest life and conversation, and eminent for his hospitality amongst his neighbours. The Captain and his followers enter the house by violence, killed two of his maid-servants, wounded others, and in all probability had murdered *M. Wright* himselfe, had not his neighbours that loved him well, rescued him out of their hands. The crime objected against him, was Loyalty, and that amongst Rebels is crime enough: for this he is forced to live an exile from his owne habitation, and hath absented himself from his house now twelve moneths. The same Rebels came to one Master *John Leech* his house, in the same County, as I take it, they enter his house by violence, they kill one of his maid-servants for endeavouring to keep the doore shut against them, and tooke away Master *Leech* prisoner. There was a gentlewoman in the house come thither but two dayes before, who seeing so barbarous cruelty practised upon Innocents for no other fault but living in peace and obedience, was so affrighted, that for some time she remained almost distracted.

When the rebellious city of London first delivered up it selfe the servile instrument to execute the illegall Commands of the heads of the faction in Parliament; a Troop of factious Citisens under the command of Colonel *Cromwell* came to the University of Cambridge, and there seized on the persons of Doctor *Beale*, Doctor *Martin*, and Doctor *Sterne*, men of known Integrity, Exemplary lives, profound learning, and heads of several Colledges in that famous University: having them in their custody they use them with all possible scorn & contempt, especially *Cromwell* behaving himselfe most insolently.

when one of the Doctors made it a request to *Cromwell*, that he might stay a little to put up some linnen, *Cromwell* denyed him the favour; and whether in a jeere, or simple malice told him, *that it was not in his Commission*: having now prepared a shew to entertain the people, in triumph they lead the captives towards London, where the people were beforehand informed what captives Colonell *Cromwell* was bringing. In the Villages as they passed from Cambridge to London, the People were called by some of their Agents to come and abuse, and revile them. When they came to London being to bring their prisoners to the Tower, no other way would serve their turne but from Shore-ditch through Bartholomew-Faire, when the Concourse was as thick as the negotiation of buyers & sellers, and the warning of the Beadles of the Faction (that use to give notice to their party) could make it; they lead these captives leisurely through the midst of the Faire: as they passe along they are entertained with exclamations, reproaches, scornes, & curses, and considering the prejudice raised in the City of them, it was Gods great mercy that they found no worse usage from them; having brought them to the Tower, the people there use them with no lesse incivility within the wals, then the people did without, calling them Papists, Arminians, and I know not what. After some time imprisonment there, they were removed to the Lord *Ieters* house in Aldersgate-street; and though they often petitioned to be heard and brought to Judgement, yet they could obtaine neither a Tryall, nor enlargement, unlesse to free their bodies they should ensnare their souls by loanes of money to be imployed against the King, or taking impious Oathes or Covenants: at last after almost a yeares imprisonment, on Friday the 11. of *August*, 1643. by order from the Faction that call themselves a Parliament, they were removed from thence, and all put on Ship-board, in a Ship called *The Prosperous Sayle*, or the *Prosperous Sayler* lying before Wapping. They went by

Coach from *Aldersgate-street* to *Billingsgate*, in the way to the Common Stair, there to take water, one was overheard to say, *these looke like honest men*, and he was not a jot mistaken: however for bearing testimony to the truth he incur'd the censure of a Malignant, and was in danger to be committed: but another looking these grave learned Divines in the face, reviled them, saying, that *they did not looke like Christians*: and prayed that they might breake their necks as they went downe the Stairs to take water. This harsh usage they found by land, but yet they found farre worse by water: being come on ship-board they were instantly put under Hatches, where the Decks were so low that they could not stand upright, and yet were denyed stooles to sit on, or so much as a burden of straw to lye on. Into this *Little Ease* in a small ship they crowd no lesse then fourescore Prisoners of qualitie, and that they might stiffl one another, having no more breath then what they sucked from one anothers mouths, most maliciously, and (certainly) to a murtherous intent, they stop up all the finall Auger holes, & all other in-lets which might relieve them with fresh aire: an act of such horrid barbarisme, that nor Age, nor Story, nor Rebellion can parallel; But, *O Lord God to whom Vengeance belongeth, thou God to whom vengeance belongeth, show thy selfe, O let the vengeance of thy Servants blood, that hath beene shed in this land, be openly shewed upon these worse then Heathen Salvages in our sight, O let the sorrowfull sighing of thy prisoners come before thee, according to the greatnesse of thy power preserve thou those that are appoynted to dye.*

## Mercurius Rusticus, &amp;c.

## XIII.

*Master Anthony Tyringham a Minister, wounded and most inhumanely used by the Rebels in Buckinghamshire. Mistresse Wiborow (the Parsons wife of Pebmarth in Essex) and her children exposed to great extremity by the Sectaries of that Countie. A lively pattern of ingratitude acted by a Schismaticall Smith at Dalham in Suffolke, &c.*

**M**After Anthony Tyringham, Patson of Tyringham in Buckinghamshire, having businesse at Maids-morton, at his returne came to Buckingham, where he met with two of his Nephewes. The Uncle and his Nephewes glad of so happy a meeting, after some stay to congratulate the good chance, and to refresh themselves, set forward in their journey, and passed in peace without danger untill they came neare Stony-Stratford, where a partee of Diazooners comming from Aylesbury surprized them: and instantly (scarce asking them from whence they came) searched and disarmed them, which was no difficult achievement, there being but one Sword amongst all three. The Rebels take from them their Horses, their Coats and Money: superfluous things as they conceived for men designed to captivitie: for having spoyled them of their Horses, Money, and Garments, they send them with a strong guard Prisoners to Aylesbury: while the rest of the Partee, lurking about Stony-Stratford, stayed there to expect some fresh bootie: And that in this we doe not slander these great Champions of the Subjects Liberties and Properties, the issue will acquit us, for presently after (to shew that all was Fish which came to Net)

they seized upon a poore Bone-lace-man & a Shoemaker, robbed them of what they had, & in the same manner sent them away prisoners to Ailisbury. The guard of Dragoons having brought their 3 prisoners about a mile and a half on the way towards Ailisbury, commanded them again to alight: The first Plunder was for the Captain or Commanders, or else a share was set apart *Anathema* for the support of the Publique Cause, these men to whose trust they were committed, now intend to plunder for themselves; And first, they command Master *Tyringham* to put off his Caslocke: who being not sudden in obeying the Command, nor over-hasty to untye his girdle to disroabe himselfe of the distinctive Garment of his Profession: (though now a caslock, contracted into the Compendium of a *Gippe*, is become the Garb of the Reformers) one of the Dragoons to quicken him, cut him through the hat into the head with the sword taken from one of his nephews, and with another blow cut him over the fingers: Master *Tyringham* wondring at so barbarous usage without any provocation, came towards him that had thus wounded him, and desired him to hold his hands, pleading that he was a Clergy-man, a prisoner, and disarmed; the cowardly villaine either fearing the approach of a disarmed man, or willing to lay hold on any advantage to expose the prisoners to the fury of his fellows, cryed out, *Shoot the rogues, for they intend to resist*; the word was no sooner given, but a Musquet was instantly discharged at one of *M. Tyringham's* nephews; but the Musqueteere missing his mark, another of the Rebels with his sword aymed righter, and ran him into the shoulder: a Musquet was presented to the other nephew, but Gods providence restrained the murderous intention of the Rebelle that he did not give fire. Thus exercising their pleasure upon disarmed wounded men, they rob *M. Tyringham* of his Caslocke, rifle all their pockets, and take from them what they please; and to palliate their cruelty, they send two Dragoons back, to tell their  
 Captain,

Captains and their companies that the prisoners committed to their custody and conduct made resistance : Upon this false alarm given, presently the Captains and their Companies make up to them, to assist a strong Guard against three disarmed, and of them two wounded men ; being come where they were, they encompassed them about, and without any examination of the business, presuming the suggestion to be undoubted truth, one of the Rebels, Captain *Pollard* by name, with a full blow strikes at Master *Tyringham*, and with his sword cuts his Arme and Cub-bones crosse the elbow almost asunder : M. *Tyringham* (almost threecore years of age within two) bore this barbarous usage with undaunted courage, and hearing this bloody villaine called Captaine *Pollard*, in a pleasant indignation expressed the sense of the injury but thus, *That now he had made him a Pollard indeed*: A Metaphor easily understood by Wood-men, who usually call a Tree, whose limbs or branches are lopped off, a Pollard: M. *Tyringham*s Arme thus miserably wounded, and hanging dangling from his shoulder, without any government from the nerves or sinews, one of his nephews having a mourning Riband, tendred it to his Uncle to bind up his Arme, but the Rebels will not permit it; though M. *Tyringham* intreat the favor to have his wounds bound up, and the very spectacle before their eyes, was argument enough to extort this mercy from them ; yet they remaine inexorable, nor would they be perswaded untill a long time after; having now made sure worke with their prisoners, and rendred them so far unable to resist, that some were hardly able to sit the jades on which they were mounted, they againe set forward for Ailesbury. The Dragoons horses on which they were set, being tyred, made the way very tedious, especially to M. *Tyringham*, who lost much blood all the way as they went.

While these Gentlemen were in this miserable condition, Captaine *Pollard*, not troubled at all for so bloody a

fast, barbarously committed by himselfe on an aged Gentleman, and a Minister of that Gospel which they falsely pretend to maintaine, but indeed deny and blaspheme in all their actions, turned aside to *Whaddon Chase*, and sported himself in killing some of His Majesties Deere, which he carryed along with him to *Aylesbury*: after almost foure houres riding, tyred out with tyred Jades, and fainting with losse of blood, the Prisoners were againe commanded to alight at a Town called *Whitchurch* within two miles of *Aylesbury*. Here they fall on Master *Tyringham* afresh, and Plunder him as eagerly as if he had bin new come into their hands, and not touched by them before. They pluck off his boots, and take from him his Jerkin, his Hat, and Cap, all the fences provided for cold and weather, and the usuall fortifications against the injuries of wind and raine; and so made a Patterne of the man wounded betweene *Ierusalem* and *Iericho*, they mount him on his Spittle againe and drive on, and after an houres riding in cold and darknesse, at last they arrived at *Aylesbury*, that night the Chirurgions (as soon as they could be found) viewed and dressed the wound, but concluded unanimously that they must cut off his Arme the next day, or else it would Gangrene and infallibly kill him, which next day was done accordingly: Master *Tyringham* bore the losse of his Arme with incredible resolution and courage, as knowing the Justice of that Cause for which he suffered, and as willing to lay downe his Life in testimony of his Loyaltie, as his Brother Master *Edward Tyringham*, one of the Gentlemen of the Kings Privy Chamber had done before him, who the last Winter being imployed in His Majesties service, & set on by a Partee of Rebells fought valiantly, but oppressed with multitudes, received so many wounds that he dyed of them. But it hath pleased God so to blesse the means used for this Gentlemans recovery, that there are great hopes he will survive these maimes, and (as himselfe undauntedly told



told the Rebels to their faces ) *Live to see them banged.*  
Amen.

In the fourth Weeke of this *Mercury*, you heard of the cruell usage of Master *Wiborow* Parson of *Pebmarsh* in the Countie of *Essex*, by the Rebels in those parts ; how they abused him in the Church, beat him in the fields, and took from him the Book of Common-Prayer, having before torne another of his in pieces. After this the *Brownists* and *Anabaptists* of that place (with which that Country swarms) threaten to kill him ; Master *Wiborow*, not daring to trust himselfe amongst these cruel blood-thirsty men, to preserve his life, was compelled to leave his Cure, his Wife and Children, some seven moneths since, and to put himselfe under the Kings Protection : hoping that his absence might be a meanes to secure his Wife and Children, and prevaile with these Monsters to permit them to enjoy that which he left behinde him for their sustenance : but his absence was so farre from working this good effect in them, that they made use of it, to eject him out of the possession of the Profits of his Parsonage, and his Wife and Children out of their house, exposing them harbourlesse to the wide world : for taking advantage of his absence, they accuse him to the pretended Parliament, and frame a Bill of Falshood and Lyes against him, thereby to gaine a Sequestration of his Living : A businesse not of any great difficultie, they being more ready to grant such illegall oppressive ejections then the People to aske them ; for upon the Accusation, *John White* that fornicating *Brownist*, sitting in the Chair, *M. Wiborows* Living was Sequestred, and the Profits of it given to one *Burrows*, though the Cure was never neglected, but supplied by *M. Wiborows* friends, to the content and satisfaction of all moderate peaceable men ; yet though they had rob'd him of his livelyhood, and given his Wives and Childrens bread to Strangers, by most unjust practices, yet his hopes were that his poore Wife and Children should enjoy  
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the accommodation of their dwelling in the Parsonage house: but such is the implacable crueltie and malice of these Sectaries, that on the tenth of *June 1643.* a Troope of the Rebels came to the Parsonage house and demanded entrance; Mistresse *Wiborow* and her Children being alone in the house, she bar'd up the doores against them, and for her better safetic retired to an upper roomie, to which the passage was through a Trap-doores, which likewise she made as fast as she could: all this fortification could not keep these Rebells out, they breake open the doores, and make way to the roomie where Mistresse *Wiborow* and her Children thought to secure themselves: when they came thither, three of these Rebels set their Pistolls at her brest, threatening to shoot her, if she and her Children would not sudden'y depart the house, and leave it to a new Master. Mistresse *Wiborow* replyed, That she would rather be killed within doores, then perish without, but withall earnestly intreated that she might enjoy so much of her husbands right, as his house to shelter her and her Children, who poore soules stood about their mother crying, and in their naturall oratory craving compassion towards their Mother, whom at every word the Rebels threaten to Pistoll; but neither the earnest intreaty of the Mother, nor the pitifull out-cries of the Children, could prevaile with them, they remain as deafe men, void of all pittie or bowels of compassion: nay, they violently seize on her, drag her down the staires, and out of the house into the yard: the poore Children being almost distracted and at their wits end for feare what would become of their Mother, being thus violently drawne out of the house into the yard, there she found *Mer ton Simpson* and *cooke* the Sequestrators, with other attending there to see this joyfull spectacle, a poore oppressed Gentlewoman & her small children cruelly cast out of their own habitation by Rebels & Traytors. As soon as Mistresse *Wiborow* saw them, she presented them with the Kings Proclamation against the Oppression of the

the Clergie, by the intrusion of Faction and Schismaticall persons into the Cures and Revenues of Learned, Orthodox Divines, by Order of one, or both pretended Houses of Parliament, contrary to all Law and Justice : which she hoped would have found so much obedience and respect, as to restore her to her house : This was so farre from mollitying these Rebels and Schismatiques, that it provoked them to great insolencies; at last, when Mistress *Wiborow* perceived that all her intreaties, and her childrens teares prevailed nothing, to restore her to her house, she intreated the Sequestrators, that in case she could not be permitted to dwell in her owne house, that yet she might have some other place of accommodation provided, to receive her and her children : *Meriton* insolently replied, *That he would provide his Tumbrill*, that is, his Dung-cart, to carry her and her Children from *Constable to Constable*, till she came to her Husband : After many bitter scoffes and scornes in this her affliction, she desired, that if she might not obtaine so much favour to dwell in her house, yet they would not deny her access to her house, but that she might goe in to fetch out provision for her Childrens supper that night : but these Monsters of men would not give her leave : and to compleat this unheard of Tyranny and Oppression, the *Authorized Thieves*, I mean the Commissioners appointed by the pretended House of Parliament to seize upon the Estates of all Delinquents, and to point out who shall be Plundered next. Order, that whatsoever Master *Wiborow* had left, should be seized on for the use of that *Thing* which they call a Parliament : thereby to support Rebellion with Robbery and Theft. Instantly they seize on his Corne, and those few Cattle, the remainder of former Plunderings, though they knew it was the life of the Mother and her children, and that in taking away these, they deprived them of all meanes of subsistence, and exposed them to extreame want, having reduced them to  
this

this miserable condition, to beg or starve: *Now for the comfortlesse trouble sake of the needy, and because of the deepe sighing of the poore, I will up saith the Lord, and will help every one from him that swelleth against him, and will set him at rest:* The good God performe his promise, *Let God arise, and let these enemies of God and man be scattered.*

Master *Thomas Dalton* Bachelor of Divinitie, and Parson of *Dalham* in the County of *Suffolk*, being Plundered of his Horse by Colonel *Russels* Troop, Deputtie Lieutenant of the Countie of *Cambridge*, on more then probable grounds, fearing that they would seize upon his person, and commit him to Prison, was compelled to leave his family & retire privately to some friends, where he continued some moneths. In the *interim*, one *Barnard* a poore Smith, & one that formerly had lived on the Parish alms, informed the Committee at *Cambridge* of M. *Daltons* absence, & making it his Crime, Petitioned for a Sequestration of his Living, intending to make a gain of it himself; for whereas the Living is worth 140 *l. per annum*, and had beene so let for many yeares before, *Vulcan*, I meane *Barnard* the Smith, having got a Chaplaine of his owne, one *Randal* by name, indents with him to serve the Cure for 50 or 60. pounds a yeare, intending to put up the *Overplus* into his own purse: nor did he faile of his pious project, so apparently tending to the publique good, and reformation of the Church: For on the Smiths bare instance, though earnestly opposed by the Lord of the Towne, and about forty of the chiefest of the Parish, who all laboured earnestly to withstand it, the Committee for the advancement of the reformation, hearken to *Barnard* and substitute *Randal Vulcans Priest* in Master *Daltons* place, and renew; This grant of the Committee was ratified by the Committee at *westminster*, for 'tis not impossible but *Barnard* might have sharers with him in both Committees: For the *Tyth* of the *Tyth* was enough for  
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an *Almes-man*; nay, this Committee did not onely ratifie the Order of the other Committee, but added to the injustice by ordering *Mistresse Dalton* instantly to resigne possession of the Parsonage house to *Randal*: of which Ordinance, when the Patron of the Living had intelligence, she instantly posted to *London*, and knowing how unjust and triviall the Accusations against *M. Dalton* were, absence being his maine Crime, (being put to this hard Option, either to stay and be committed Prisoner, or to flye and be rob'd of the Profits of his Living, for this is the Dilemma to which all Orthodox Conformable Ministers are now put) resolved to intercede for him, hoping either quite to take him off, or at least to procure a mitigation of the Order; but contrary to his expectation he found the Smith *Courted, Applauded, and to enjoy freedom of access to the Committee*, and himselfe (a Gentleman of very good rank and esteeme in his Country) to be *sleighted, neglected, and made dance attendance*, and after long waiting, not regarded what he spake for his Minister: At last this good Gentleman having by experience observed, that the practices of the Faction in Parliament did engage them to sleight and suppress the Gentry, and all that made Honour or Conscience the rule of their Actions, & to court and observe the dregs and scum of the people, (as the fittest instruments for their designs) returned home, and sending for *Mistresse Dalton*, intreats her to make use of his house as her owne, untill God should enable the King to restore her, and all his loyall Subjects to their own: *Mistresse Dalton* accepts of his courteous offer, but leaves her man to keep possession of the Parsonage house: she had not stayed long here before her Hoast is threatned to be Plundered for his hospitalitie: *Barnard* the Smith (as bad as *Alexander* the Copper-Smith) being now so rich as to be able to travaile to *London*, and trouble his neighbours; that his *Levite* might have the Parsonage house to better his bargain, speeds

speeds to the Committee, and prefers a Complaint against Mistresse Dalton for not giving up possession of her house according to their Order: upon complaint made, it is further ordered by the same Committee, that because she had not presently quitted the house, she should be brought up to London before the Committee, there to answer the contempt: to avoyd further vexation she obeyed the Order, and gave up possession, hoping that this resigning of her right, would let an end to her trouble: but according to the Rebels *Method* from the beginning of this Parliament, first invade the *Clergy*, & then the *Laitie*, so here they vary not from the first *patterne*, for having robbed Master Dalton of his Ecclesiasticall Revenues, presently they seize upon his Temporall, his Rents and other debts due unto him, they leave him nothing. But if you please to see the lively Character of a *Malicious, Ingratefull, cheating Schismaticke*, whole Religion it is to return *evill* for good, & *battered* for good *will*, looke once more on this *Barnard* the Smith, & you will conclude it doubtfull which is hardest, his Anvill or his heart. For this wretch owing to M. Dalton twenty seven pounds, when the time of payment was come, *Barnard* comes to the Church-Porch, the place appointed for payment of the Debt, attended with four Rebell Troopers, as witness of the tender of the monyes. Mistresse Dalton being there to receive it, he poures it out, she having told it was putting it up into her purse, but *Barnard* interrupted her, saying, *Stay, this is for better use then so, it is for the service of the Parliament*: and presently (as the Plot was laid) the Troopers bent their Pistols at her brest, & force the monies from her: nay, before it was lawfull by Order and Ordinances to violate all the Obligations of religion & gratitude, this *Barnard* acknowledged himselfe much bound to Master Dalton for many favours, who having many wayes indeared him, thought all things safe which were committed to *Barnards* trust; in this confidence Master Dalton laid up diverse Coomes of Wheat in

*Barnards*

*Barnards house, to be a help in time of need: when M. Dalton was gone, his wife sent to Barnards house to demand some Wheat, this unthankfull wretch denied it, affirming, that M. Dalton, being a Malignant, had no right or proper tie in those goods; and therefore forbade her man to come on his ground, threatening that he would runne his Pitch-fork in him, if he came thither to make any such demand: Ab uno disce Omnes.*

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## Mercurius Rusticus, &c.

### XIV.

*The Rebels barbarous usage of Sir Ralph Canterils man in Chancery-Lane London. Of the Ministry of London. A Character of Master Ephraim Udall, Parson of Saint Austins, with the cruelty used towards him and his wife. Sir Tho. Hides covetousnesse and neutrality here rewarded by the Rebels. Master Bowlbrodes Prayer by the Spirit, &c.*

**I**F in the Relation of these sad Stories thou find (Courteous Reader) some Complaints of *London*, mingled with those of the *Countrey*, know that the earnest request of *Mercurius Rusticus* must plead my Apology. The heads of this Rebellion, deale with that miserable City as unjust Step-mothers do with their poor Children, *whip them till they cry, and then whip them againe for crying*: for they have not so much looters Priviledge left them as to have *Libertie to complaine*: and then let the World judge to what a narrow Scantling the *Libertie* of the Subject is reduced, by these pretended Assertors of the *Libertie*, when it is lawfull for them to Murder, and Plunder the Kings good Subjects, and yet it is not lawfull for the

the oppressed to bemoane their owne Condition. Being therefore denied the common natural mitigation of great pressures, to bewaile their owne miseries, and breath out the sense of them in free expressions, for fear they further provoke their *Oppressors* while they implore the compassion of their friends, *Mercurius Civicus* in his letter, dated Aug. 5. 1643. and directed to me, earnestly entreated (their own Presses not daring to publish the truth of their miserable condition) that their sufferings under the *Insolency, Injustice, Tyranny* and *Rapine* of this horrid Rebellion, might be made known to the World by a borrowed Pen, and interwoven with those of the *Country*: that therefore we may not be wanting to so just requests, nor leave posteritie ignorant what transcendent cruelties are practised as well within the Walls of that wretched City as without, as oft as they shall privately (by such secret wayes of intelligence as the present condition of the times permit) impart their Calamities, I shall according to *Mercurius Civicus* desire, insert them with those of the *Country*; & so impart them to the World; and though the Barbarous murders committed on Master *Tompkins* & Master *Chaloner*, that second paire of *State-Martyrs*, together with the butchery of a Peaceable Citizen slain by Captaine *Harvey*: and the women slaughtered by Sir *William Wallers* Troopers (that ran away at *Roundway Downe* to kill Women and Virgins in *London*, for the unpardonable crime of petitioning for Peace) might justly challenge precedency, yet because the memories of those two Worthies are reserved for a peculiar Martyrologue, and these are already embalmed by the Piety of our Brother *Aulicus*, I shall set before you the misery, into which that Rebellious City hath plunged it selfe and us, in some other instances.

On Tuesday the 15 of Aug. 1643. a Partee of Colonel *Harvies* Regiment came to one *Walkers* house in *Chancery-Lane*, to seize on Sir *Ralph Cauteril*, whom they supposed then to have lodged there: on their coming, find-  
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ing that the Knight was either gone out of Town, or had shifted his lodging, but on diligent inquiry discovering that there was a man in the house that now was, or lately had been Sir *Ralphs* servant, they apprehend him, and demand where his Master was, and where he had hid his Money, Plate, and Jewels: The man replied, that he had left his Masters service, and did know nothing, either where his Master was, or how he had disposed of his goods: presently they lay violent hands on him, and carry him out into the back-side into the house of Office, there to examine him by Torment: there they rip up the Tiles, and one of the Rebels taking a cord out of his pocket, fastned one end of it about the poore mans neck, and threw the other end over the rafters of the untiled house: Having him at this posture, they interrogate him again where this (Imaginary) Treasure was hid: he returns the same answer, that he could give no account what Sir *Ralph* had done with it: for being to leave his service, he was a stranger to his Masters actions: Not satisfied with so reasonable an answer, they hoyle him up by the Neck, and let him hang a good distance from the ground, where having hanged a while, they let him downe, and examine him again where Sir *Ralph* had bestowed his Money, Plate, and Jewels: The poore man not able to give any other answer to their Querie, protests his ignorance, and that if the discovery might save his life, yet he could not redeeme it so, for he knew nothing concerning what they asked him: enraged that the man could not Prophecie, (for without that gift he could not resolve them) they suddenly hoyle him up to the top of the house, and letting goe their hold, they let him as suddenly fall to the ground: being fallen, there he lay for dead without any expresseion of life: but these barbarous Rebels, hoping that there may yet remaine some life in him whereon to practice further cruelty, stand by the man, and watch him, and at last perceiving that he was not dead, but that he began to stir and breath,

presently they put burning matches between his fingers : hoping by this way of Torment to extort a discovery from him : but in vaine, the extremitie of this Torment indeed (though half dead as he was) made him cry out and roare in a very lamentable manner, which a Maid-servant of the house hearing, and affrighted at the noyse, ran to her Master, and told him, that certainly the Rebells were murdering the man in the house of Office, hereupon Master Walker hastned out, and when he came to the place, found the conjecture of his Servant true, and amazed at so horrid, so inhumane a spectacle, interceded for the poor man, and earnestly desired them, not to defile his ground and habitation with innocent blood : instead of desisting, they returne the Egyptians answer to Moses, *Who made thee a Ruler and a Judge?* bad him be silent, and withdraw, or else they threatned to use him in like manner : Master fearing that those perjured perfidious Villaines, which keep their words in nothing else, might yet be punctuall in performance of mischief, not daring to commit himself to their mercy, lest them, and went into his house, where the Quarter-master to the Rebells lay sleeping while the Troopers were acting this crueltie, him he rayleth from sleep, & tels him what the Troopers were doing without : who something moved at the relation, went out unto them, and took them off from farther prosecuting their Barbarous intentions. But whether or no the man on whom all this crueltie was acted, survived this Barbarous usage, is uncertaine.

As amongst the many blessings wherewith it pleased God to advance the Citie of *London* farre above all other Cities, either of this, or other Nations of the Christian World, one was their *Clergy*: for a more Pious, Learned, & laborious Ministry no people ever enjoyed, *even their enemies themselves being Judges*: So amongst the many crying sinnes whereby that Proud Rebellious Citie hath provoked God, to give them up to a *Reprobate sense and hardnesse*

hardnesse of heart to their owne destruction, certainly, the contempt & oppression of their *Clergy* are none of the least : as before the last Parliament began, a main part of their Religion was to *strive with their Priests*, and to robbe them of their maintenance, by all possible arts of deccit, and fraud, so as soon as the Parliament was sate, and the basest of the people were set loose to worrey their Ministers (though never so blamelesse, never so Orthodox, if they did not conspire with them to innovate both Church and State : ) the Citizens of *London* shewed themselves most forward in Petitioning against their Ministers : yet at first pretended to molest such onely, who had exprell'd greatest zeale to the order, and decency of Gods worship, professing that for the rest there was no thought to trouble them : but at last, having put to flight or imprisoned *those*, they go on and discover plainly, that whosoever is a *friend* to the Protestant Religion, as it is established in the Church of *England*, is their *Enemy* : how many have they silenced, imprisoned, or banished from their Cures, whom heretofore they did magnifie for the undaunted *champions* of the *Protestant Religion* ? and stout opposers of those supposed pretended innovations, which they vainly imagined were the eager endeavours of some men to impose upon the Church : he that knowes *London*, and hath frequented the most throng'd Congregations there, cannot be ignorant, that Master *Ephraim Udall*, Parson of Saint *Austines* in the *O'd-Change* neare Saint *Austines Gate*, is a man of eminent Pietie, exemplary conversation, profound learning, indefatigable industry preaching constantly every Lords Day twice, and for the Winter halfe yeare, if not the whole yeare, preaching a Lecture at his owne Parish every Tuesday in the afternoon, and if I am not mistaken, every Saturday before the first Sunday in the month a Preparatory Sermon to the blessed Sacrament of the *Lords Supper* : and besides all this, he is a man of an affable, courteous, peaceable Conversation

amongst his neighbours: In a word, he was a man of their  
 own Voe: and is (without prophaneation be it spoken) *a  
 shining and burning light*, and his people for a while much  
 pleased themselves in their choyce, and were content to  
*walk by his light*: but when he found himselfe mistaken in  
 the ends & intentions of the heads of this Rebellion, when  
 he saw that the zeal of some did degenerate into madnesse  
 and frenzie, and that the endeavours of others (under the  
 pretence of Reformation) was to bring in Anarchy and  
 Sacriledge, to devoure Gods portion, & the poor remain-  
 der of the patrimony of the Church, he did strongly and  
 powerfully bend both his tongue and pen against them:  
 against Sacriledge he published that learned Tract, cal-  
 led *A Coale from the Altar*: against Anarchy he declared  
 himselfe for Episcopacie, and the established Lyurgie:  
 and published another Booke, called *Common on Comeli-  
 nesse*, in which by many impregnable arguments he proves  
 a high Conveniency, if not a necessitie, for that most lau-  
 dable custome of having Railes about the Lords Table:  
 These were in the Schismaticques opinion Crimes enough  
 to un-saint a man, nay, had Saint *Paul* himselfe been now in  
 the flesh, and preached against Sacriledge and Anarchy,  
 there is no doubt, but there would have bin some found to  
 Petition against him, and *John White* sitting in the Chair,  
 as undoubtedly he had been voted a scandalous Minister  
 at a Committee; but because when these Books were pub-  
 lished, Injustice and Oppression did not march so turi-  
 ously, nor were growne so frontlesse and impudent to seize  
 on Innocency it selfe, not slur'd with slanders and calum-  
 nies, Master *Udal* sate something quiet, some murmurings  
 there were, but his former Reputation in the Citie bore  
 him up against the Obloquy of private discontent: the  
 Faction found it no easie matter to brand M. *Udal* with  
*Poetry*, or *Papishly affected*, or these slanders to make any  
 impression in that estimation which the people had of him:  
 but at last when they came openly to debite their Sovereign,

the

the Lords Anointed, and it was almost Treason but to name the 13. Chapter of the Romans, it was a fit time to Silence and remove M. Udal, for neither Doctor Gouge his Church in Black Fryers, or M. Goodwins in Coleman-street, were halfe so full before this Parliament began, as M Udals hath been since. First, therefore, they Plunder his house, they take away his Library and household-stuffe: Then they remove him from the execution of his Ministry, and Sequester the profit for a Levite of their owne: Thirdly, they sought for him to commit him close Prisoner, being aged, of very weake and infirme body, his strength exhausted with continuall labours in Preaching the Word of God, visiting the sick, and in execution of other Ministeriall Functions, in performance of which in his owne person few of his Brethren were more Conscientious: And Lastly, they cast him out of his dwelling house: But when they came to seize on his house, they found one impediment, which unlesse they could find some art to remove, they could not take full possession of it: Mistresse Udal (besides the infirmities of age) was lame, and it had been monstrous inhumanity to take her by violence and carry her out of her house, not knowing where to dispose of her, but in the open street: Therefore to gain her consent, and prevent clamor untill the feat was done, they tell the good old Gentlewoman that the Parliament had a tender respect unto her yeares, and to her present Infirmities: and therefore though they had ordered to dispossesse her of that house, yet they did not meane to leave her harbourlesse, but had out of the abundance of their goodnesse provided another house to receive her: She, good old woman, neither awed by feare, nor wonne by their perswasions and promises, was taken up by two men brought in by him that had broken open three locks, and entred the house by force, and carryed out of her house into the street, there they set her downe in a Chaire, and so leave this weak infirme Matron, of a long

time not accustomed to the open aire, nor being able to goe out of doores in three or foure yeares before, unlesse unto the Church, exposed her (a sad spectacle of the Rebels crueltie) to the mercy of wind and weather.

The Rebels in their march towards *Gloucester*, seized on Sir *Thomas Hide* a *Bedford-shire* man, whose lordid covetousnesse had made him so far forget all Dutie and Loyaltie to his Sovereigne, as that he refused to assist him either in his person or his purse: but because either his estate lay nearer to the power of the Rebels, then to the Kings *Protection*, a Consideration which in these Atheisticall Rebellious times is admitted as a just Apologie, either for *Neutrallitie* or ready *Compliance* with the Rebels, so farre as to submit to all Taxes and Impositions laid on them, a most Trayterous and Irreligious libertie and dispensation of Conscience, which if all men had made use of, the Kings Crowne might long before this have been throwne downe to the ground: Or else conceiving it a very unlikely, it not an impossible thing for the King to withstand their power, who had not onely by Lyes and Slanders stolne away the hearts of the people, but had seized on all his *Castles, Townes, Forts, Magazines*: did contribute to the Rebels ayde, and wholly complied with them, not so much out of judgement, as *fear*: thinking that this compliance would be the securitie of his estate, and turne to his great advantage: but his wealth was so well known, that bare compliance, and sinall Contributions must not serve his turne, he must *bleed more freely*: They sease him the Twentieth part, and that highly set: This demand struck his heart like pangs of death; and he that was so forward in pettie assistances, now discovered the love of himselfe to be more then that of the holy Cause, and refused to part with more monyes: wherefore in recompence of his former good deeds, they seize on his person, and carry him captive in their Army, and suffered his servant to walke along by him, leading a horse in his hand, while

while his Master the Knight was chained arme to arme with another Prisoner, and was compelled to beat it on the hooft; Thus did he march for three dayes on foot, coupled with another Prisoner, and that Prisoner, as we are informed, is Doctor *Stubbing*, Doctor in Divinitie, whom likewise the Rebels gathered up in their march, and taking him from his Cure, added him to the number of their Captives: So soone can these Rebels forget former aides, if men doe not comply with them, and answer their expectation in every thing: and indeed what measure their dearest friends are to expect from them, if they faile them in any particular, not running into the same excelsse of Madnesse and Treason as they doe, and shall not shew themselves ready at a call (to their perpetuall infamy, contrary to the Religion which they professe, the Oathes which they have taken, and the solemn Protestations which they have made) to rush into the damnable siane of Rebellion, and give the right hand of fellowship to the Rebels here, to assist them in so unnaturall a War against their own gracious native Sovereigne, we may fully learn by a Prayer (for now they have turn'd their very Prayers into sin, being no better then very Libells and Pasquills) lately made by Master *Bowllstrode*, sonne to Colonel *Bowllstrode*, a Factionous Rebelle of *Buckingham shire*, before his Sermon at *Horton* neare *Colebrooke*, which that you may see what *Spirit of Prayer and Supplication* it is of which they boast, and that the Nation whom it concernes may see what opinion the Factionous Preachers here have of them, unlesse they will serve their vile purposes and ingage themselves as deeply (which God forbid) in the present Rebellion as themselves, we have here inserted.

*Thou hast, O Lord, of late, written bitter things against thy Children, and forsaken thine owne Inheritance, and now Lord, in our misery and distresse, we expected ayde from our Brethren of the neighbouring Nation, (the Scots I mean)*

but good Lord, thou knowest that they are a false and perfidious Nation; and doe all they doe for their owne ends, and not for our good: if therefore, good Lord, their comming into the Land at this time be for our good, bring them in speedily, if otherwise, keep them out, for they are a false and perfidious Nation.

There was present at Church at that time, one Master *Kenada* a Scotchman, who being drowsy was wakened by a friend that sat by him, to hear the devotion of the Preacher; who hearing his whole Nation thus publickly blasphemed by this contemptible Zealot, spake out in the Congregation saying, *I think the man is mad*: and certainly Master *Kenada* was not a jot mistaken, to think him *mad* that should thus rashly in the face of a solemne Congregation traduce a Nation, and if there be amongst the heads of the Rebellion (in whose power he is) any care of the honour of *that Nation*, we doubt not but we shall shortly heare of some exemplary punishment inflicted on this incendiary between the two Nations: and heightened according to the nature of the Crime. If any man doubt of the truth of this Relation, whether it be a fiction or a thing really done, he may consult Master *Kenada* or any of *Horton* Parish, who are ready to beare Testimony to this Truth.

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## Mercurius Rusticus, &amp;c.

## XV.

*Master Squire of Little Saint Bartholomews London, Plundered of foure thousand pounds. Nath. Fiennes his Warrant for a Citizen of Bristol. A touch of Col. Morleys tyranny in Suffex, with the hard usage of M. Hinson a Minister there. A woman most unchristianly tortured to death by the Rebels at Chippingnorton, &c.*

**U**Pon Friday the 18 of Aug. 1643. Master Squire of Little Saint Bartholomews London, having this present Rebellion upon severall Rates, Taxes and Loans, disbursed neere a thousand pounds, was sent unto for a new Summe towards the maintenance of the Holy Cause; but he fore-seeing, that as long as their purses were open to foment this unnaturall War, there would be no end of it till their Estates were exhausted, and the wealthiest amongst them reduced to beggery, and a morsell of bread, returned a denyall, yet withall professed his readinesse to have supplied them if he had been provided: and his Wife to indeare themselves, and to shew how well-affected they were to the Cause, wished that all the *Malignants* in London were Plundered, and then there would be lesse cause to call so often on the well-affected for so great supplies, not imagining (good woman) that her Husband might be numbred shortly amongst the *Malignants*: or, that to be wealthy and not poure out all, as often as the heads of this Rebellion should call for it, was in their opinion, high *Malignitie*: for next day, notwithstanding their former compliance with the Rebels in  
so

so great a measure, six men with Pistolls were sent to Master *Squires* house, under pretence to search for Armes, but indeed to find out a hoard of monies which either their owne jealousie, grounded on the generall received opinion of his wealth, or the treachery of some, who knew the house had suggested unto them. After some small search, (though M. *Squire* thought that his treasure had bin close enough hid) instead of Armes they find foure thousand pounds, a rich bootie, and very greedily seized upon. At last, Mistresse *Squire* finding her selfe so unexpectedly in the number and condition of Malignants, robbed of so great a Summe, fell into a swoond, and for fear she should be recal'd to pursue the injurie with just Clamours and Expostulations, when Strong waters were brought to relieve and comfort her surpris'd spirits, the Rebels would not permit it to be administred unto her: but left nature to the worke of its own recovery, without the assistance of any borrowed help. Of this foure thousand pounds, eight hundred was due to a Sonne in Law of Master *Squires*, a Creature of the Parliaments, and a great friend to the Cause, and therefore to redeeme the rest, Master *Squire* freely offered to give the Parliament (as those same people call the Faction of both Houses) the summe of three hundred pounds, so the rest might be restored unto him: but all in vaine, it was judg'd a very high *Symptome of Malignancy* to hide foure thousand pounds, and suffer the *Holy League* to be endangered for want of supplies, and therefore as a just punishment for his coldnesse, and want of zeale to the good Cause in hand, it was wholly taken from him without restitution (for ought we yet know) of a farthing: and indeed what measure the Rich either of *London* or any other place, cursed with the Tyrannie and Oppression of this Rebellion are to expect from their hands (when the necessities of supplies shall presse upon them) the world may read in this Warrant, directed from *Nathaniel Fiennes*, in the time of his raigne in *Bristol*,

to Master Gunning the younger of that Citie: which for the paine English that it speaks, and because it contains a perfect discovery of their Resolutions when occasion shall serve, we have here inserted,

## BRISTOL.

WHEREAS the Citie is at this time invironed, and in great and imminent danger to be swallowed up by many cruel and barbarous enemies of Papists, Irish Rebels, and others: and most of the Inhabitants of this Citie have, and all ought to take an Oath & Protestation for defence thereof with their lives and fortunes: These are to require you forthwith, to pay to my Servant Ralph Hooker, to be employed for the defence of the Citie, the summe of two hundred pounds, which summe, in respect of your estate, is below the proportion required of other persons of your qualitie by an Ordinance of Parliament. And if you shall refuse in this time of so great necessitie, you may expect whatsoever the desperate resolution of Souldiers, reduced unto extreame necessitie, may put them to act against your persons and estates, unlessse by a speedy Contribution towards their supply you shall prevent the same.

NATH. FIENNES.

Given under my hand,

July 25. 1643.

To Master Gunning the younger.

On Sunday morning, being the ninth of July, 1643. in time of Divine Service, Colonel Myrley, the Crooked Rebel of Suffex, came towards Hasting, one of the Cinque Ports, but in his march being discovered, presently notice was given to Master Hinson Curate of All Saints, who knowing that one end of the Colonels Sabbath dayes journey, was to apprehend him, was compelled to breake off Divine Service in the midst, and flye into a Wood neare

at

at hand, there to hide himselfe: The Colonel being entered the Towne, scattered the body of his horse into severall parts, to intercept all passages out of the Towne: and having secured the Ports, he summons the Major and Jurats, and demands the Armes of the Towne: to which he found ready obedience, for presently the Major & Jurats sent their servants to command all the Inhabitants to deliver up their Armes, which was done accordingly, and one of the Jurats, *Fray* by name, furnished the Colonel with a Waggon, he sent them away to *Battell*, being a Towne in *Sussex* some five miles from *Hastings*: that night some Souldiers lay in the Church, where Master *Hinson* officiated, where one *Wicker*, a common Souldier, getting up into the Pulpit, preached unto his fellows: and to shew the Fruits of so good doctrine, going out of the Church, either the Preacher, or one of his Auditory, stole away the Surplice, *Ralph Mills*, the honest Parish Clerke, to recover it, complained to their Captaine *Richard Cockeram* of *Rye*, but received no other answer but this, *Doe not you thinke he loves a Smock as well as you?* *Morley* being now master of the Towne, began to exercise his power given him for the good of the Kingdome, and the preservation of the Subjects Propertie, and demanded a summe of Monyes from some of the Jurats, which they paid him, and because they came off so readily, he demanded more, which they refusing, he took them with him Prisoners to *Battell*: where having stayed but a night, they returned with a Warrant next day signed by *Morley*, which they undertook to execute upon such persons as themselves had designed for Plunder and Imprisonment: whereof Master *Car* the Parson of Saint *Clements* in *Hastings*, and Master *Hinson*, were the chiefest: M. *Car* that Sunday was not at home, being fled to prevent surprizall; but hearing that Colonel *Morley* was gone to *Battell*, and thinking the storme to be now blowne over, he resolved to return to *Hastings*, and being on the way thither, he met *Fray* the Jurat, who was one

of the Combination to execute *Morleys* Warrant, and apprehend him: as *Fray* was drilling *M. Car* along, by chance one *Master Bream* met them, and seeing *M. Car* so familiarly conversing with a *Judas* that was resolved to betray him, called *Master Car* aside to speake with him, what he said is uncertaine, but in all probabilitie he discovered to *Master Car* the danger in which he was, for immediately he left *Frayes* company and rode back againe: *Fray* thus unexpectedly rob'd of his prey, instantly informed Colonel *Morley*, that *Master Bream* had frayed away the Bird that was so neare going into the snare: *Morley* presently sends some Troopers to apprehend *Master Bream*, and at what summe he did redeeme this Crime, is uncertaine. On the Tuesday after *Morleys* comming to *Hasting*, *Master Hinson* returned home: and that day, the Jurats that *Morley* tooke with him, being come baake, summoned the rest of their Brethren unto the Towne-Hall, where they acquainted them with the Contents of their new Warrant: who with joynt consent, promise their best endeavours to put it in execution: To this purpose, having picked out of the Towne a sufficient number to assist them and execute their commands, and having put their names in the Warrant with their owne, they bind them by the Religion, and strict bond of an Oath, to doe what they would have them, without ever specifying any particulars, wherein they intended to exercise their obedience, untill they should give them in charge what they were to doe: Nay, not onely so, but having received their commands, they sweare them not to reveale what commands were layd on them to any body, no not to their owne wives, untill they had executed the commands; and when some of these assistants started at this *Jesuiticall implicate Obedience*, to know to what in particular their Oath should bind them: *Wenham* a Factious Jurat replied, that they must sweare in generall,

and

and afterwards they should know the particulars. *Thomas Staple*, one of the Assistants, being pressed to take this Oath, rejoyned, *That you may make us sweare, and the businesse we sweare to, may be to knock our Fathers in the head, or betray them: Wenham* (most convincingly) replied, *That if they would not sweare, they had authority for their refusal, to imprison them for a year: The rest adding, That they need not be so scrupulous, though they did not know what they swore unto, it was no harme. for they had taken the same Oath themselves, to doe that which they were to assist them in :* And so, partly by feare, and partly by the inducement of the Jurats example, they took an oath upon the holy Evangelists, to assist the Jurats in what they were to doe, not knowing what, and to be secret, untill it was done. Sure the Oath of *canonicall Obedience*, and the so much decryed & *cetera*, must now for ever rest in peace, and never more be maliciously and ignorantly traduced after this most *Papisticall, Jesuiticall, Puritanicall* Practise.

Having thus ingaged these men by an Oath, to doe any thing which they shall command them, they then thinke them sufficiently prepared to receive the Mysteries of the Warrant which now they reveal unto them, and tel them; that they must apprehend Master *Hinson*, and some others nominated in the Warrant : In obedience therefore to the command, they presently goe to Master *Hinson*, and seize on him in his lodging : and being brought before the Major and his Brethren the Jurats, he never questioned by what authoritie he was apprehended, but only told them, that he had not done any thing that deserved this usage : presently *Wenham* replied, that he had highly deserved it, because he read the Kings Declarations. After this, all the Jurats went out, one by one, and left Master *Hinson* locked up with one Master *Parker*, whom they had a little before committed, because he would not pay for the carriage of some Ordnance to *Ayr*, a most Factionous Towne not farre

farre off: Master *Parker* was that night removed from the Towne Hall, but Master *Hinson* was left there all night, strongly guarded by eight Bill-men, having no other bed but a bench: next day Master *Parker* (who had the favour to be lodged that night in a Serjeant house) desirous to see his fellow Prisoner, prevailed with his Landlord to goe along with him to visite Master *Hinson*: of which when *Wenham* had notice, he told *Biddenham* (for so was the Serjeants name) that he deserved for this to be laid by the heeles himselfe: which check so awed many of Master *Hinsons* friends, that they durst not visite him for feare of imprisonment: The Major and *Wenham* command the Maid-servant that attended him, not to carry any Letters from him, and being examined by them, whether she had conveyed any from him already, upon the denyall, *Barlow* a Factious Schismaticke (who becaute heretofore his neighbours of *Hasting* refused to concurre with him in Petitioning against Episcopacy, joyned and subscribed with those of *Rye*) told her, that she deserved to be put into the *Ducking-house* (a Prison for women) for denying it: That night *Biddenham* the Serjeant was commanded to carry Master *Hinson* out of the Town Hall, and put him into the Common Gaole, which the Serjeant refusing, that busie fellow *Wenham* told him, that he deserved to be committed himselfe, for refusing to performe his Office: hereupon by vertue of this Oath, they command foure of the men whome they had sworne to apprehend Master *Hinson*, to tell him that he must exchange his Prison, the Towne Hall for the Common Gaole, whither they presently led him, there they lock him fast up, in a loathsome place, where there was but one short bench, and no company but a Tinker, and he none of the jovialists neither, for the stubborn seller: The Tinker pleading senioritie in the place, took possession of the bench, and most unfociably kept it all night, not interchanging with Master *Hinson* his repote for a wretched varietie take, but left him one while to walk, and another while

while to sleep on that floore, in which he was forced to doe the necessary acts of Nature: while he lay in this loathsome condition, foure of the Jurats, Jurats, I meane foure that had taken the Oath, to doe what ever was commanded them, came to the Gaole, and professed to Master *Hinson* their heartie sorrow that they ever had a hand in his Attachment, intreated him that he would not thinke evill of them, for they were compelled to doe that for which they were now sorry: And *Thomas Staple* that (as before you heard) expostulated so freely, and pleaded against the taking the Oath before he was awed to take it, shewing the monstrous evill in which it might ingage them, openly exclaimed against the Major and his Brethren, wishing that the plague from God might light upon them, for insnaring their consciences with such an Oath; when not onely Religion, but right reason might have told him and the rest, That their sinne was to take an unlawfull Oath, it had beene no sinne to break it: while Master *Hinson* lay thus in the Goale, one Master *Besanno* a Councellour at Law interceded for him, and earnestly intreated that he might be removed from the Common Goale, & committed to safe custody in some Chamber in the Towne, but could not prevaile: at last, after three weeks imprisonment, upon Master *Besanno's* request, seconded by Master *Brian* (heretofore a Jurat of *Hastling*, but now removed to *Battell*, as too honest for such a Fraternitie as he left behind him) Master *Hinson* was sent with a strong Guard to Colonel *Morley*, by whom he was transmitted to *London* to Learned *Miles Corbet*, who committed him to the Custody of a Messenger, and having no particular Acculation but a generall charge, and finding no hopes to be brought to a hearing, but perceiving himselfe deligned (as others before him had been) too long attendance and vexatious delays, he withdrew himselfe from his Tyranny and Oppression, and escaping to *Oxford*, put himselfe under the Kings Protection,



As the Rebels in their march towards *Gloucester* passed through *Chipping-Norton* in the Countie of *Oxford*, a woman of that Town ( whose zeale to the King and the Justice of his cause, could not containe it selfe though in the mid'st of his mortall Enemies ) said in the hearing of some of the Rebels, *God bleesse the Cavaliers*: ( so are all good and faithfull Subjects called by the Rebels ) this expression of the poore womans affection to the King and his loyal Subjects in so innocent a Prayer, so highly incensed the Rebels, that to punish so hainous a Crime, presently they tyed her to the taile of one of their Carts, and stripping her to the middle, for two miles march whipped her in so cruell a manner with their Cart-whips, that her body in many places was cut so deep, as if she had been lanced with Knives, the torment being so great ( as much as her straight bounds, would give leave ) she cast her selfe on the ground, so to shelter her selfe from their stripes, but in a most barbarous manner they dragged her along, insomuch that her legs and feet were so torne by the stony rough wayes, that her flesh was worne off in many places to the very bones, at last, having farre exceeded the number of stripes limited by God himselfe in the Law of *Moses*, ( though given by the hand of Justice ) *Forty stripes he may give him and not exceed*, Deut. 25. 3. they left her a lamentable spectacle of their crueltie; in this miserable condition lay this poore soule for some few dayes, and since dyed of those wounds which she received from them: The blood of this innocent, mingled with the rest shed by their hands, crying loud with them under the Altar, *Rev. 6. 10. How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on earth?*

## Mercurius Rusticus, &amp;c.

## XVI.

Burton, Prinne, and Bastwick, three Arch-Schismaticques, unjustly freed from a just Censure. The committing and removing of Master Chestlen from S. Matthews Friday-street, to make way for Burton, contrary to all Law and Equity, &c.

**A**FTER that bold affront offered (and that without checke or controule) to publique Justice, and the knowne Lawes of the Land, in those Triumphant Reductions of that *Triumvirat* of seditious Schismaticques, *Burton, Bastwick, and Prinne*, from their severall Confinements; It was no hard matter for the world to ghesse what measure the obedient Sonnes of the Church of England might expect, when that spurious, degenerous Brood, (which most undutifully cast dirt in their mothers face, and in their scurrilous, Libellous Pamphlets proclaimed her a Harlot) became the darlings both of the heads of the Faction in Parliament and the people : And though it seemed good to the heads of the Faction, by restoring these Turbulent men, to brave that Authority by which they were justly censured, yet being restored, all were not thought to be of equall concernment : As for *Bastwicke*, if any man laboring under any Indisposition (besides that to the present established Government) had a mind to be a Patient, and put himselfe into the hands of a mad man, he might doe as he pleased at his owne perill : every man was left to the liberty of his owne choice: So for *Prinne*, if any man desired to retaine him of his Counsell, it was lawfull for the Client to give, and him to receive his Fee ; but  
all

all this was but voluntary: no man was constrained to be a Patient to the one, nor a Client to the other: for the intended Rebellion might well goe forward, though *Bastwicke* never wrote an Apothecaries Bill, or *Prinne* pleaded at the Barre: But for *Burton* (a maine Engine to promote the design in hand) it concerned them to restore him, not only to a Liberty of the exercise of his Calling at large, but likewise to invest him in his former Cure in particular; from which, by the just sentence of Law he was ejected: To this purpose no arts were left unattempted, by the under-Agents, for the heads of this rebellion, to restore *Burton* to his Parsonage of Saint *Matthewes* in Friday-street London: by unjust molestations they endeavour to weary out Master *Chestlen* that succeeded him (but not immediately) in it, to relinquish his cure, and make way for this Prumper of sedition; That so, what was not feazable in Law, might yet be effected by horrible injustice and oppression: First, therefore, some of Master *Chestlens* Parishioners, (but *Burtons* old disciples, leavened with his schismaticall doctrine) deny to pay him his Tythes, or any other accustomed duties: nor are they content with their owne denyall, but by earnest perswasions, & other means they labour to draw other men into the like obstinacy and perverseness: nor did they stick openly to profess that they did this, that by unjust vexations they might weary out Master *Chestlen*, and make way for *Burton*: hereupon (the Ecclesiastical Court being suppressed, which otherwise have cognizance of the Causes of Tythes of London, nor can there any prohibition be justly granted as *Coram aem Judice*, The Statute onely enabling the Lord Major to be Judge, if the person grieved thinke fit to appeale unto him, but no way disabling the Ordinary, or abolishing his power) Master *Chestlen* petitioned (as the Statute in that case provides) the Lord Major that then was, Sir *Edmund Wright*: To the hearing before the Lord Major came *Little Isaac Pennington*, no wayes interested in the cause,

but only to give countenance to Master *Chestens* Parishioners : being there, he openly reviled Master *Chesten*, calling him *Sancie Jack, brazen fac'd fellow*, and the like; nay he threatened the Judge, thinking by this to stave him off from doing Justice, who bravely scorning the threats of so contemptible a Mushrome, in a just indignation replied, *What shall I be afraid to doe Justice?* and indeed the event shewed that he was not afraid; for upon a full hearing of the Cause, the Lord Maior gave sentence for Master *Chesten*, and ordered the Parishioners to pay their Tythes; *Tillat* a Linnen Draper, one of the Citizens that was sued, refused to obey the Lord Maiors Decree; and therefore the time limited in the Decree being expired, the Lord Maior, according to the power given him by the Statute of the 37 of *H 8.* committed *Tillat* to prison, without baile or mainprize, until he did submit to the sentence as the Statute gives him power: But see the Justice of the great pretenders to the maintenance of the Lawes of the Land, *Tillat* had not stood committed many dayes, before two of the House of Commons (as the Keeper of Newgate sayes) in the name of the House of Commons, command him to be set at liberty, which accordingly was done, though he were in upon Execution, and the debt not satisfied: every man wondring at, but no man daring to question so illegall an action. When this way tooke no effect, they joyned their purses to vex him with an *Action of Ejectment*, threatening to spend five hundred pounds, but they would out him of his Living: but presently deserted those intentions as not feizable. After this, they slander him for preaching Popery and Arminiasme: which unjust scand'll so prevailed in the City, that he could not passe the streets without affronts and jeeres put upon him: they disswade his Parishioners from hearing him, telling them, that they would be damned if they lived under his Ministry, they branded them with the name of Malignants, if they frequented their own Church, and procured them to be

be deeply taxed in all Settlements. In a word, that nothing might be wanting to their owne malice, and M. *Chestlens* vexation, they threw menacing Libels into his house, laid wait in the Pewes of his Church, while others provoked him to expresse himselfe in the great differences of the times, hoping to intangle him in his words; and examined his conversation in the very places where he lived, even from his Childhood to that time, hoping to find something whence to frame an Accusation against him : When all these malicious courses would not effect the thing they aimed at, they goe from house to house for hands to a Petition against him, to the House of Commons, pretending that he had preached false doctrine, and made it the subject matter of their Petition: & if any man refused to subscribe (as many did because they could not testifie the truth of the Petition) in their *spirit of meeknesse*, they called them Malignants, Papists, and Enemies to Religion : however it is too well knowne, that two or three men (though the very dregs of the people) petitioning against Orthodox Ministers, have in the judgement & acceptance of the Faction of the House of Commons, out-poized the rest of the Parish, though infinitely beyond them, as in number so in quality : their testimony being rejected with much acrimony and sharpnesse, when the others Libels have gained credit and reputation with them : Therefore about March, 1641. the Schismatiques of Master *Chestlens* Parish, presented a Petition against him to the House of Commons, in the name of the whole Parish, though three parts of foure protested against it under their owne hands: When it was presented, *Pennington* and *Venne* earnestly urged that it might be read, pleading in their drivelling, railing Oratory, that he was a very dangerous man, fit to be looked after: To satisfie their Importunitie, the Witnesses (who as their manner is, were never sworne, and yet were both Witnesses and Accusers) were produced and examined at t<sup>he</sup> Barre, and upon examination

the Petition was throwne out as frivolous, but like eager blood-hounds not giving off the pursuit, for being at one losse, upon *Easter Eve*, to shew the world that *malice is part of a Puritans preparation to the Sacrament*, when the House was very thin, the Protestants of the House being in their Closets, close at their devotions to prepare themselves for the great Feast at hand, and when private busineses by Order of both Houses were layd aside (for as yet all opinion of the Sanctitie of the ancient *Festivalls* of the *Primitive Church*, was not lost amongst them) *Pennington* and *Ven* prevailed to have this foyled ejected Petition to be revived and read again in the House, and the Patrons of Justice and integrity being then absent, the Petition was referr'd to the Committee for Scandalous Ministers: so they are pleased to call all Orthodox, conscientious Ministers, who abhorre their Rebellion, and refuse to comply with them in their seditious practises: and that no time might be lost, in Easter week, the Committee sate purposely for this businesse: to which there was a full confluence of Seditious Schismaticall people from all Quarters of the Citie; that so nothing might be wanting to this Triumph: while Master *Chefflen* was thus tyed to a tedious chargeable attendance, *God, to whom appertain the Issues of death*, smote *Tillar*, the maine promoter of Master *Chefflens* troubles with the Plague, of which he dyed: with whom also for the present dyed Master *Chefflens* trouble and vexation: and though some (that thinke that all acts of providence are aimed point-blanke at them) having such an opportunitie as this, would interpret this to their owne Interest as a signe of personall favour to them, yet not daring to presse into the hidden will of God, nor making our selves of familiar acquaintance with his Counsells, I shall not make any inference from hence, but leave every man to abound in his owne sence, onely thus much we say, *Tillar* being dead, the  
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hot prosecution of Master *Chestlen*, for a while lay dead too: when all these endeavours could not re-estate *Burton* in the Parsonage, some of the Factious of the Parish combine to make him their Lecturer, and perhaps better approved of him as their Lecturer then their Parson: to this purpose cunningly, & on feigned pretences they get some subscriptions of the Parishioners, and annexing them to a Petition, for which they were never intended, preferred it in their own names, and the names of the rest, to the House of Commons, that *Burton* might be their Lecturer: which was no sooner proposed then granted, and an order presently drawn up to give *Burton* power to preach in M. *Chestlens* Pulpit, which M. *Chestlen* resolutely opposing, kindled such Coales against him as afterwards fired him out of the Citie: for since Master *Chestlen* will not give way to *Burton* to be partner with him in his Pulpit, they resolve to give him possession of the whole, by removing Master *Chestlen* totally from his Cure: To this purpose Master *Cafe* sends to the Faction in Master *Chestlens* Parish to frame some accusation against him, in obedience to so ghostly Councell, Master *Chestlen* is presently accused to the House of Commons for Preaching a Seditious Sermon on Sunday the 23 of *October*, that very day whereon the Battell was fought at *Edge-Hill*: The subject of the Sermon in truth, being nothing else, but an earnest exhortation to his Parishioners to perswade them to constancy in the *Protestant Religion*, perseverance in the feare of *God* and the *King*: presently a Warrant is granted for the apprehension of Master *Chestlen*: on the Thursday following, they riotously assault him in his house, with great Tumults, armed with drawn Swords and Pistols: and seizing on him, in great triumph they carry him to the Court of Aldermen, who now (it seems) are succeeded in the place of the *High Commission*, and are to be Judges of true or false doctrine: being brought before this *Lay Sanedrim*, whereof *Pennington* the pre-

tended Lord Maior was President, and a rabble of Schismaticks crowding in, to give countenance to the businesse, Capitaine *Vens* their Leader, stands forth and accuseth Master *Cheflem* for a most dangerous seditious Preacher (though he confessed that he never heard him) and that he stood a delinquent in Parliament: others objected against him, that he discouraged the Citizens from going to Windsor, though this Sermon were preached before that unreasonable deligne was knowne, that the Kings Royall Castle should become Capitaine *Vens* Royall Castle, or his Countrey-house for the recreation of his *Mopsa*: and that the people might have full content, M. *Cheflem* was there baited on every hand, every Alderman had his sling at him: at last having made him a publique scorne of the multitude, *Pennington* commits him into the hands of his accusers to expose him to more abuse, and to commit him to the Compter: the Rabble being now made Serjeants, they threaten to carry him in a Cart through the open streets to the Prison: to deliver him from the fury, and rage of the people, his Father (a knowne able Citizen) tendered Baile of ten thousand Pounds, but it was not accepted: away they carry him to the Compter, and the next day being Friday, he is brought to the Barre at the House of Commons: where the Speaker (who had bin happy in the deceived worlds opinion both of his wisdom and honestie had he never known other Barre, but that of the Exchequer) interrogated him touching his Preaching against *Brownists* and *Anabaptists*: and presently, though no witnesse appeared, though no crime were objected, though no accuser appeared against him: he was Voted by the House of Commons to be sent Prisoner to *Colchester* Gaole in *Essex*, there to remaine during the pleasure of the House: and to pay the Charges of his conveyance thither: And that Posteritie may read, and reading stand amazed to see how Tyrannical, how unlimited an Empire, these Subjects have exercised upon their fellow Subjects, with.



without any legall Proceſſe, or any cauſe ſhewne, to doome them to Banishment and Captivitie, during their *high and mightie pleaſure*, we have here inserted a true and perfect Copy of the Warrant and Sub-warrant, by which Master *Cheſtlen* was ſent from hand to hand, till he came to his Gaole at Colcheſter.

By vertue of an Order this day made by the Commons Houſe of Parliament, Theſe are to will and require you, to take into your cuſtody the body of Maſter Robert Cheſtlen Clerke, and him by your ſelfe, your deputie or deputies, according to the ſaid Order, to carry in ſafe cuſtody to the Priſon of Colcheſter Caſtle in Eſſex, there to be delivered to the Gaoler or Keeper of the ſaid Priſon, to be kept in ſafe cuſtody as his Priſoner, untill the pleaſure of the Houſe be made knowne to him to the contrary: It is alſo Ordered, That the ſaid Maſter Cheſtlen ſhall defray the charges of his carriage to Colcheſter Caſtle aforeſaid: And for ſo doing, this ſhall be a ſufficient Warrant.

Dated this 26. of Octob.  
1642.

Henry Elſynge,  
Cler. Parl. D. C.

To John Hunt the Serjeant  
at Arms, attending on the  
Houſe of Commons, his  
deputie or deputies.

I doe appoint the Partie or Parties, whoſe name or names are ſubſcribed to be my lawfull deputie or deputies, for the execution of this Warrant. witneſſe my hand this 28. day of Octob. 1642.

John Hunt Serjeant at Armes.

M. Dodſon.  
Walter Storr.  
John Hind. } Gentlemen.

Next

Next morning being Saturday was this (righteous) sentence put in execution: Thus to make way to reduce *Burton*, a Stigmatized infamous Schismaticke to his former place, was Master *Chestlen* doomed to banishment and captivity: in a remote place from his Father, his Wife and Family, into a noysome Gaole, where he was made a companion to Theeves and Felons; in a Towne, where 'twas little lesse then death to be Loyal; or as themselves phrase it, to be *Cæsars friend*: A Towne in which they that sent him thither, could not but know that they exposed his life to the fury of an enraged fanaticke people, and not long before had almost murdered Sir *Iohn Lucas*, his Mother, and Sister, together with Master *Newcomin*, one of their owne Ministers, and for this had received publique thanks from the House of Commons for their forwardnesse and zeale to the service of the Parliament; Lastly, in a Town arrived at that high degree of madnesse, that the *Independent Church* is openly practiced in it, and the Major banished one of the Towne for a Malignant and a Cavalier, whose name was *Parsons*, and gave this learned reason for this exemplary piece of Justice, *Because it was an Ominous name*: While Master *Chestlen* remained in this durance, if any man durst visit him, it was at his perill, he was in danger to be Plundered and branded with the dangerous name of a Malignant. They raysed reports of great resort of Cavaliers to him, and of Armes brought unto him, inso-much that Alderman *Barrington* told the Committee, that their Town was not in safetie because of *M Chestlen*, who poore man, had no other indeavour then how to free himselfe from the loathsome nastinesse of his Prison: To this end many Petitions were delivered to the House of Commons, that he might be delivered from the Gaole to some private house, which boon, after much and earnest prosecution by Mistrresse *Chestlen*, and his friends, was obtained: Having an Order to exchange his Gaole for a private house, Master *Hammon*, an honest Gentleman, dwelling in  
the

the Towne, entertained Master *Chesten*: but for his charitie incurred the hatred of the common people, for whereas before he lived beloved, & in good estimation amongst his neighbours, now for harbouring Master *Chesten*, and for this and other actions, being under the jealousie of the *crime of Loyaltie*, they call him *Cavalier*, they threaten to call him up to the Parliament, and at last were as good as their word, for upon their Complaint, he was sent for up to the Parliament, and committed for receiving Master *Chesten* into his house: though in reason he might safely conclude, that, that Order of the House which gave Master *Chesten* libertie to remove to another house, did withall give that house libertie to entertaine him: Thus continued Master *Chesten* in this exile and Imprisonment from *October* 1642. untill the *February* following, when the Kings expresse Warrant being sent for his release, having the opportunitie now and then to goe abroad and take the aire, he left the Warrant for the Jaylor to make use of for his best advantage, while he came away to *Oxford* and put himselfe under the Kings Protection: since that, in *London* they have broken up his house and Plundered his goods: a common evill incident to all the Kings faithfull Subjects, which are within the Verge of the Rebels usurped power.

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## Mercurius Rusticus, &amp;c.

## XVII.

*Master Fowler, Parson of Minchin-Hampton in Gloucester-shire, his wife and children barbarously used, & his house Plundered by the Rebels. Master Bartlets house at Castle-morton in Worcester-shire, five times Plunderd, but especially by Captaine Scriven, an Impudent Rebel, &c.*

ON Newyeares day, 1643. seventeene Souldiers sent by Captaine *Jeremy Buck*, came to Master *Henry Fowlers* houle, Parson of *Minshin-Hampton*, in the Countie of *Gloucester*; being entred the house, they find Master *Fowler* sitting (as the season of the yeare required) by the fire side, presently they seize on him, and tell him, that he is their Prisoner: and though he instantly submitted unto them without any the least resistance, yet to wreck their owne malice, and the malice of him that sent them, upon him, one of the Rebels takes him by the throat, and holds the point of his Sword at his breast, two more (on each side one) present their Pistols at him, another shakes his Pole-axe over his head, others strike him with their Pole-axes; threatned he is on every side with varieties of death. All *Smite him with the tongue*, they ravle at him, objecting against him as heinous crimes, First, that he read the Common-Prayers at length, and that he had published the Kings Proclamations with a loud voice: and then with renewed fury they assault him againe: they beat him with their Pole-axes, and call him *Malic-Priest, Rogue, Rascall*, and tell him, *Sirrah, you can furnish the King with a Musquet, a Corset, and a Light-Horse,*

*Horse, but thou old knave, thou canst not find any thing at all for the Parliament:* And then to worke they fall againe with their Pole-axes, and beat and bruise him in most parts of his body; so that being aged, (no lesse then Threescore and two yeares old) and being not yet perfectly recovered of a former lamenesse in one of his hippes, though he were in a probable way towards it, by this barbarous usage, being so cruelly beaten, and tugged, and haled by them, he is made a very Cripple, irrecoverably lame, without all possibilitie of recovering of his Limbes: All this inhumanitie was practiced on Master *Fowler* in the presence of his Wife and Children, the Wife in the behalfe of her Husband, the Children in the behalfe of their Father, humbly intreating on their knees, that they would have compassion on him, and not murder a peaceable man in his owne house. While some of these Rebels were executing this Crueltie on his person, others goe up into his Study and Chambers, and take away all that was of good value, and portable. And having crippled the Master of the Family, and rifled his house, like the true Servants of that Master whom they serve, the Devill, *they leave him*, but it was *but for a season*.

Now, though the present sense of these sufferings could not be but very great to an aged man, and one labouring under former infirmities, especially to have his sufferings imbittered by the reproachfull raylings of the Rebels, and the mocks and mowes of Captaine *Bucks* friends and Kindred, who stood by jeering, and clapt their hands for joy, applauding the exact execution of *Bucks* commands, given his Souldiers concerning Master *Fowler*, yet the sad effects which followed were evidence enough how cruell his usage was: First, Master *Fowler* presently upon the Rebels departure, fell into an extream bleeding, which continued, and could not be stanchd in six houres and more, by which great out-let of Spirits,

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his strength was so much exhausted, that he was not able to stand. *Secondly*, the next day after his bleeding, what with the losse of so much blood, and what with violence offered to his whole body, the *Retentive facultie* was so weakened, that his Urine came from him insensibly, and in this wretched condition he continued very neare a month. *Lastly*, by the many contusions and knocks which he received on his head with their Pole-axes he lost his hearing, which he hath not perfectly recovered unto this day. And now after all this barbarous usage, remains there yet any thing else to be added to his sufferings? was not their malice satisfied, and these out-rages (designed to be committed on him) compleated yet? No, Captain *Buck* knew that it would not be lawfull alwayes to commit murder, and rob those that are quiet in the Land, and therefore resolved to make use of the present opportunity: he was not ignorant that the wages of a faithfull servant to the Rebellion was *full licence to doe any thing that can satisfie Lust, private Revenge or Avarice*: And therefore in *July* last, *Buck* himselfe, not like a Captaine of Souldiers, but a Ring-leader to a *Rout of Rogues*, came to Master *Fowlers* house at *Minchin-Hampton*, and most theevishly broke open the Window of his Sonnes Study, and so entred the house: In the Study they found rich Treasure which they did not know, being indeed without a Metaphor *Pearl before Swines*, for young *M. Fowler*, a Practitioner it seemes in Physick, had in his Study *Extract of Pearle, Aurum Potabile, Confections of Amber*, a great quantity of *Compound waters*, a good proportion of *Pearle in Boxes*, a Box full of *Bezoar Stone*, with many other things of admirable use, for the preservation of the life of man, and of very great value, all which they took and brake in pieces, and trampling them under foot, made them utterly unuseful either for themselves or others. One of *M. Fowlers* daughters, in a just indignation at so great waste of things so precious, told *Buck*, that he might be ashamed to spoyle things of that

that use and value, *Buck* (a rude untutored man as he is) called her Whore, and with his Pole-axe gave her a blow on the neck, and struck her downe, and being risen again, again he strikes her downe with his Pole-axe, nay, to pursue the glorious victory, he strikes her down a third time, and had she bin able to rise from the floore, questionlesse, had struck her down a fourth time. The compassionate mother *Mistresse Fowler* standing by, and seeing her daughter thus barbarously used, to redeem her from this cruelty, resolved to expose her own person to the fury of this mad Beast, and therefore interposing, asked *Buck*, whether he thought she could endure to see her child murdered before her face? But as soon as *Mistresse Fowler* came within his reach, without regard either to her Age, or Sex, he caught her by the Throat, knocked her downe, and being downe, kicked her, and trampled on her with his feet. At last, having acted what crueltie he pleased (according to the Latitude of that Tacite Commission given every Captain of the Rebellion) on *Mistresse Fowler* and her daughter, he and his Rabble Plundered the House, and so departed.

If the monstrosities of these barbarous and inhumane cruelties, committed on this Reverend Divine, his Wife and Daughter, and reported in this Relation, shall weaken the credit of the Relation, and render the truth of it suspected, let the world know, that there is nothing set down in this account given unto the world, but what was testified upon Oath before the Right Honourable Sir *Robert Heath* Knight, Lord Chiefe Justice of his Majesties Court of Kings Bench, on the 18. day of *Aug.* 1643.

On the 21. of *Septemb* 1642. being Saing *Matthew* the Apostle and Evangelists day, a hundred and fittie Souldiers, some from *Gloucester* sent from Captaine *Beard* being of his Company, and some others from *Teasbury*, (all conspiring together, and taking advantage of the peoples absence from their homes, and being at a Fayre that day at  
*Lea-*

*Ledbury* two miles distant from *Malverne Hills*) under the conduct of Captaine *Scriven*, sonne to *Scriven* the Rich Iron-monger, and late Major of *Gloucester*, came to *Castle-Morton*, in the Countie of *Worcester*, to Plunder Master *Rowland Bartlets* house : a man so well beloved in his Country, for his hospitalitie, so deare to all sorts of people, especially to the poore, for his Charitie, and those helpes which he freely bestowed on them, for the recovery of the sick, the lame, and infirme, that had not these Rebels taken the opportunitie of his Neighbours being at the Favre, this force had been too weak, to have made him the first instance of the Rebels insolency (in that County) by way of Plunder : when they came to *Castle-Morton*, for feare of surprizal their Horse secure the streets, and high-ways, while the Pikes and Musqueteers beset the house : having made good all passages, that none could goe in or come out, without their leave, *Scriven* advanced towards the house : M. *Bartlet* perceiving himselfe to be inclosed with armed men, their Muskets being bent upon his house, and his Pales serving them instead of Rests, comming out of his doores, met *Scriven* in the Porch, and after a friendly salute, demanded of him the Reason of this warlike approach to his house : *Scriven* answered, that he came in the name of the Parliament, and by their command to search for Armes : Alas ! replied Master *Bartlet*, you are like to loose your labour, for Justice *Salloway* (meaning that trayterous beggerly tellow, who in the time of the late universall madnesse, was made Knight of the Shire for the County of *Worcester*) hath prevented you : yet Master *Bartlet* bad him use his discretion, to see if he could find any gleaning, after the others full Vintage : and so brought him through his Hall into his Parlor, being there, Master *Bartlet*, according to the freeness of his disposition, and after the good old English way of bidding welcome, called for some Beere, while *Scriven* sate there, and with a curious eye surveyed the furniture of the Roome, he espied  
Master



Master *Bartlets* Sword hanging on the Wainscot, *Scriven* presently taking it downe, said, Is not this Armes? yes, replied Master *Bartlet*, but no more then is necessary for every honest man, to prevent or repell injury on the highway; yong Master *Bartlets* Sword hanging by his fathers, *Scriven* takes down that too; and utterly to disarm them; that so they might rob them without resistance, the Rebels in the outward Roomes possesse themselves of Master *Bartlets* mans Sword: young Master *Bartlet* comming into the Parlour, hoping to recover his Sword, *Scriven* perceiving a Ring (in which was set a Rubey) hanging in his Band-strings, rudely seized upon it, and after some struggling, some seconds with Pistols and Carbines, comming to his assistance, *Scriven* either broke, or cut it off: having rob'd the young-man of his Ring, animated by the presence of his fellow Theeves, he dives into his Fathers Pockets, and takes thence his monies, between three and foure pounds: Master *Bartlet*, perceiving his hand in the returne to be full of money, put his owne hand into his pocket to see what was left, and finding but one poore three pence, to have escaped his theevish fingers, tendered him that too, desiring him all might goe together, which was no sooner offered, then taken by this poore conditioned unworthy fellow, yet Heire to a thousand pounds a yeare, unlesse the Hang-man cut off the entaile; Master *Bartlet* being clad in a faire Scarlet Gippo (a shrowd temptation to a man not accustomed to weare good Clothes, especially at his owne charge) so dazeled *Scriven*s eyes; that he offered to pull it from the others back: Master *Bartlet* intreated him not to strip him of his Clothes since he had taken away his monies, with which he should buy more: O Sir, replied this doughty Captain, you have mony enough to buy more, & so the hopes of a greater prize making him forget the Gippo, he drew his Sword. and threatned to kill M. *Bartlet*, unlesse he would confesse where he had hid his mony & plate: but finding him resolute not to betray his own

Treasure, *Scriven* seizeth upon a woman that was Master *Bartlets* house-keeper, an old faithfull servant, in whom Master *Bartlet* and his wife reposed much trust, and thinking to worke upon the weaknesse of her Sex, and affright her into a confession, he causes some to present Pistolls at her brest, and others the points of their Swords, threatening her with present death, if she would not discover where her Masters Treasure was; but finding this woman not to be terrified with their threats, & fearing surprizall by some Forces which might come from *Worcester*, or the return of the Country people from the Fayr at *Ledbury*, he resolved to make tryall if he could find out that which he saw would not be disclosed unto him: Therefore without further delay to worke they goe; resolving to search the house from the top to the bottome. In Master *Bartlets* chamber, *Scriven* seizeth upon Mistresse *Bartlets* Watch, he breakes open a Trunk, and took thence (by his owne confession) six hundred pounds in money, he takes away all Mistresse *Bartlets* wearing Linnen, to the value of threescore pounds, he breaks open her Cabinets, Trunks, and Boxes, and in them seized, or (to speak more properly) stole more Money, Plate, Jewels, & Bracelets, amounting to a great sum: amongst other things valuable, both for Raritie and use, took a Cock Eagles Stone, for which thirtie pieces had been offered by a Physitian, but were refused: having thus scim'd the house, and rifled it of the Principall things in it; a warning-Piece is shot off, to signifie to the Rascallitie, that now they might have free leave to enter: upon the signall given, leaving (instant) their Guards & Stations, in a confused Tumult they rush into the house: and as eager hounds at a losse offer here and there, and know not well where to fasten, so these hunt from the Parlour to the Kitchen, from thence, by the Chambers, to the Garrats: every Roome is full, every one fearing that his fellow thiefe would prevent him, and seize upon the prey before himselfe: besides Master *Bartlets*, his

Wives

Wives and Childrens wearing apparell, they rob their servants of their Clothes: with the but ends of their Muskets they breake open the hanging-Presses, Cup-boards, and Chests, no place was free from this ragged-Regiment: and if so barbarous an out rage, could possibly have admitted any time, but for a serious detestation of so foul injustice, it might have drawn a smile from the most concernd beholders, to see their thrusting and tumbling one another, the rude arts used to supplant one another, and how one thief snatched and stole from another: after this storm was seene comming on, and to threaten this house in particular, the servants fearing, that though the main brunt might light on their Master, yet some sprinkling might chance to fall on them, used all the art of cunning they could devise, to preserve those small summes of money of which their honest labour, and frugalitie had made them masters. But 'twas in vaine to hide, where desperate beggery, and resolv'd Rapine were to be seekers: in one place the Rebels find twentie shillings, in another fortie, three pounds here, more or lesse there: but were it more or lesse, all was fish which came to Net, they spare none: In this strict search, they met with Mistresse *Barilets* sweet-meats, these they scatter on the ground, not daring to tast of them for feare of poyson: a wary consideration, and such as staved not off the hardy Knight Sir *William Brooke* of *Kent*, to meet fists with a greazy common Souldier in a Gally-pot, when the Rebels of that Countie did the like out-rage on the truely honoured Lady *Butlers* Closet, as you heard in the first weeks Relation of this Mercury: and as for Syrups and Salves, those charitable Provisions for the sick and maimed, these they trampled under foot, not providently fore-seeing, that some of their Brethren in this Rebellion, might stand in need of them, the Fryday next following, at the Battell of *Wickesfield* near *Worcester*, where God, by the hand of the Kings Forces, under the Conduct of Prince *Rupert*, gave the Rebels their first over-  
M a throw;

throw; The happy Omen of *Edge-Hill*, and those many other succeeding Victories with which (no lesse to the wonder then confusion of the Rebels) it hath pleased God since to blesse his Sacred Majestie : In a word, except Bedding, Pewter, and Lumber, they left nothing behind them, for besides two horses laden with the best things (*Scriveners* owne Plunder) there being an hundered and fittie Rebels, each Rebelle returned with a Pack at his back. As for his Beere and Perry, what they could not devoure, they spoyle, the earth drinking what the Rebels could not, and then triumphing in their wickednesse, and glorying in their villany, they vaunted, *That they had made Bartlet a begger, and left him not worth a groat* : yet all the Rebels were not of the same beliefe, for presently after, when the Earle of *Essex* possessed himselfe of *Worcester*, some under his Command came from *Worcester* to Master *Bartlets* house, where what was under-valued, and left by *Scriven*, and his Rout, was good bootie to these; They take away good store of Bacon from his Roose, and Beefe out of the Powdering-Tubs; they steale his Pots, Pans, and Kettles, together with his Pewter to a great value, they seize on all his provisions for hospitalitie and house-keeping, and then breake his Spits, as unnecessary utenfills, they expose his Bedding to sale, and Presse Carts to carry away his Chaires, Stooles, Couches, and Trunks, though emptied before by *Scriven*; and sharply threaten all such as should be knowne to harbour any of Master *Bartlets* goods. And though these two Plunders, one upon the neck of the other, left Master *Bartlet* a desolate naked house, yet when the Earle of *Essex* came lately downe towards *Gloucester* and hid himselfe, and his Army in Hedges, Ditches, and the inclosures about *Tuesbury*, on three severall dayes, three severall Companies came to visite Master *Bartlets* house, presuming, that in almost a twelve months time the house might be new furnished, nor were they altogether deceived in their

their expectation; without, they Plunder him of eight Horses, and within, what ever they found, they made clean worke, the fifth Plunder not sparing his Kitching-stuffe, which being reserved in a small barrel, a Souldier putting it on his shoulder, carryed it away; comming this last time to M. *Bartlets* house, and understanding that he and his sons were in the Kings Army, they abused his wife in beastly, immodest, scurrilous Language, which I shall omit to relate as offensive to Christian eares; I shall conclude this five-fold Plunder, with the Relation of one of their Captains *hypocrisie*, and a common Souldiers impiety, glorying in his wickednesse: The Captaine being invited to eate of a stubble-Goose, which a Souldier had Plundered and brought into his Quarters, refused to tast of it, and gave this reason for his refusall, because it was stoln, which bred in Mistresse *Bartlet* a great opinion that he was a conscientious man, but being to march away, he that would eate no stoln Goose, made no scruple to ride away upon a stoln Mare, for Plundering Mistresse *Bartlet* of her owne Mare, this hypocriticall Captaine (and pittie it is I cannot tell you his name) gave sufficient testimony to the world, That the old Pharisee and the new Puritan, have consciences of the selfe-same temper, *To straine at a Gnat, and swallow a Camell*, measuring all actions, not by lawful and unlawfull, but as they are more or lesse gainfull. But while the Captaine chose rather to be a Villaine, then openly to *appeare so*, the common Souldier would not onely be so in deed, but desired so to be accounted; and therefore when his companions were carrying out M. *Bartlets* goods, amongst other things, one seized on some live Partridges, and being intreated to forbear, and to spare them, because they were provided for a Great-bellied Gentlewoman, and now ready to lay down her burthen, the common Souldier hearing him plead thus, barbarously replied, If we had made Venison of her great belly, she would not have long'd for Partridges, for I have killed young & old, Men,

Women and Children : and boasting himselfe in his sin, and *glorying in his Shame*, without regard had to the dangerous longing of a pregnant woman, if not satisfied, took them away. So truly is that of the Prophet, verified in these miscreants, *They declare their sinne as Sodome, they hide it not, woe unto their Soule, for they have rewarded evill to themselves*, Esay 3. 9.

## Mercurius Rusticus, &c.

### XVIII.

*The Rebels persecution of Doctor Featley, a knowne Champion of the Protestant Religion : part of his Sermon against the Sectaries : his death: Together with their murdering of two of the Inhabitants of Lanibeth on the Lords day, &c.*

**I**N Novemb. 1642. some of the Rebels Foot Souldiers being Billeted at *Alton* in the Countie of *Middlesex*, they presently enquire of their Hosts what their Doctor was, (meaning Doctor *Featley*, their then Rector) and what Divine Service they had; they answered according to the truth, that he was a man who precisely observed the Canons of the Church, and swerved not a tittle from the Rubrick of the Common Prayer, wearing the Surplice, and using all the Rites and Ceremonies of the Church established by Law. Some of the Red coats replied, Doth he so? We will teach him another Lesson, and make him leave those Popish Superstitions, or he shall rue it. Soone after, they repaire to the Church at *Alton*, break open the doores by force, in the Chancell they find this subscription on the wall, *This Chancell was repaired and beautified such a yeare by Daniel Featley D.D. Rector*, which

which they utterly defeaced: Then laying hands on the Rayles, they dealt with them (as Ducks do with a frog) teare them limbleffe, and afterwards burnt them in the street, saying, That if they had the Parson there, they would burne him with his Popish Trinkets.

Soone after, Colonel *Urrey* took up his Quarters at the Parsonage house, some of whose Souldiers (whether willingly or by carelesnesse being in drinke is not certified) lying in the Doctors Barn, set it on fire, which burned the whole Barn full of Corne, and two Stables downe to the ground, the losse being estimated by the Inhabitants at 211 li.

But to leave *Alton*, and come to *Lambeth*, where the Sectaries wrecked their spleen, not upon Pales or Rayles, or the fruits of the earth, as at *Alton*, but upon the bodies of Christs Servants, on his owne day, and in his owne House and Court. For Feb. 19. 1642. even in the midst of Divine Service, at the reading of the *Te Deum laudamus*, foure or five Souldiers rushed into the Church with Pistolls and drawn Swords, affrighted the whole Congregation out, wounded one of the Inhabitants, (whereof he soone after dyed) shot another dead, as he hung by the hands on the Church-yard wall, looking over to the Palace Court, who might truely have said in the words of the Poet, though in another sense, *Ut vidi, ut perii*.

It was gathered by many circumstances, especially by depositions taken before the Coroner, and by some speeches that fell from their owne mouths, that their principall aime at that time was to have murdered the Doctor, which 'tis probable they had effected, had not some honest Inhabitants premonished the Doctor, who was at the same time on his way towards the Church, intending to have Preached.

About the same time many of these Murtherers were heard expressing their rancour against the Doctor, thus: Some said, they would chop the Rogue as small as Hearbs

to the Pot, for suffering Pottage (for by that name they usually style the Book of Common Prayer) to be read in his Church: Others said, they would squeeze the Pope out of his belly, with such like scurrilous and malicious Language.

The Sunday sennight after this out-rage, being the fifth of *March*, the Doctor perceiving some Separatists at Sermon at *Lambeth*, took occasion to speak as followeth:

**I**F ever Schismaticques and foul-mouth'd Separatists were let forth in their native colours, the Schismaticques of this age are: *Psal.* 50. 16, 17, 18, 19, 20. *What hast thou to doe to declare my Statutes, or that thou shouldst take my Covenant in thy mouth? Seeing thou hatest instruction, (whatsoever thou pratest of Retormation) and castest my words behind thee, (namely, Prov. 14. 21. Eccles. 10. 20. Rom. 12. 1, 2, 3, 4. Heb. 13. 8, 9, 17. 1 Pet. 2. 13.) When thou sawest a thiefe, then thou consentedst with him, and hast been partaker with Adulterers. Thou givest thy mouth to lying, and thy tongue frameth deceit. Thou sittest and speakest against thy brother, and standest thine owne mothers sonne. For is not this their chanting Language?*  
*"The Prelates of England, are all Antichristian; The Ministers, Baals Priests; The Publique Service, Idolatrous;*  
*"The Ceremonies, Superstitious; And the Sacraments, corrupted with mans invention?* Itake them at their word; If this be true, then is the Church of *England* no true Church of Christ; then they which have received all the Religion they have from her, are no better then Miscreants, Pagans, and Infidels, in apparent perill of drowning in everlasting perdition, because out of the Arke, without God in this world, because without his Church. For as the blessed Martyr St. *Cyprian* soundly argueth against their forefathers the Catharists, *Deum non potest habere Patrem, qui Ecclesiam non habet Matrem*: And Church they have none for their Mother, for they disclaime the true Protestant



stant Church of *England*, and the Popish disclaimes them; so they are meere *A per se A's*, *Independents*, like the *horti pensiles* in *Lactantius*, and *Mausolus* his Sepulchre in *Marital*, hanging and hovering in the ayre.

The Scripture sets forth the true visible Church of Christ upon earth, under the embleme of a great *field*, a great *floor*, a great *house*, a great *sheet*, a great *draw net*, a great and large *foundation*, &c. The Church shadowed out under these similitudes, cannot be their Congregation, or rather Conventicles: For as they brag and commend themselves, wanting good neighbours, In their *Field* there are no *taves*, in their *floor* there is no *chaffe*, in their *house* no *vessells* of dishonour, in their *sheet* no *uncleane beasts*, in their *net* no *trash*, on their *foundation* nothing built, but gold, silver, and precious stones. They have not sate with vaine persons, nor kept company with dissentiblers; they have hated the assembly of Malignants, and have not accompanied with the ungodly; they have not, nor will not Christen in the same Font, nor sit at the holy Table, (for to kneele at the Sacrament is Idolatry) nor drink spiritually the blood of our Redeemer in the same Chalice with the wicked. Get ye packing then out of our Churches with your bags and baggages, hoyle up sayle for *New England*, or the Isle of *Providence*, or rather Sir *Thomas Mores Eutopia*, where *Pluto's Commoner*, and *Osirius* his *Noblemann*, and *Cassillio* his *Courtier*. and *Vegetius* his *Souldier*, and *Tully* his *Orator*, and *Aristocles Felix*, and the Jewes *Benichab*, and the Manichees *Parasles*, and the Gnosticks *illuminate ones*, and the Montanists *spirituall ones*, and the Pelagians *perfect ones*, and the Catharists *pure ones*, and their *precise* and *holy ones* are all met at Prince *Arthurs Round Table*, where every guest (like the Table) is *totus seris atq; totundus*.

There are three heads of Catechisme and grounds of Christianitie, The Apostles Creed, the Lords Prayer, and and Ten Commandements; these may be more truly then

then *Gorran* his Postills, tearmed *aurea fundamenta*, which they goe about to overthrow and cast down, and when they have done it, no place remaineth for thē to build their Synagogues or *Maria Rotunda's*, but the sand in the Saw-pit, where there Apostle *Brown* first taught most profoundly. The Lords Prayer they have excluded out of their Lyturgie, the Apostles Creed out of their Confession, and the Ten Commandements by the *Antinomians* their Disciples out of their rule of life. They are too good to say the Lords Prayer, better taught then to rehearse the Apostles Creed, better liv'd then to hear the Decalogue read at their Service, for God can see no sinne in them, nor man honestie.

Tell me, ye bastard-brood of *Martins*, is it not sufficient for the conviction of your cauterized consciences, that ye wreck your spleene upon the materiall Temples of God, by breaking downe Organs, burning Rayles, and defacing the Monuments of the dead, but will ye go about to destroy the spirituall Temple of the holy Ghost? not fearing that dreadfull sentence of the Apostle, *He that destroyeth the Temple of God, him shall God destroy*. Could they not be content to teare the Booke of Common Prayer in pieces, and scatter the leaves all about the Church, but will they also rend and dilacerate the living members of Christs mysticall body? Will they charge the Cannon with murdering thot to destroy and dissipate whole assemblies of Gods Servants met together upon his own day to worship him in his own house? Do they think that their bare opposition to Popery will save them? If that alone would give a man a good title to heaven, not onely the *Socinians*, *Libertines*, *Familists*, *Antinomians*, and other damnable Heretiques, but even the *Jewes & Turkes* would snatch heaven from them, and take it by force, for these are as vehement opposers of Popery as they are: And howsoever the violent opposition to Popish Superstition is all the Religion some of them have, yet are they not at so deadly feud with

with *Papists* as they would beare the world in hand, for they shake hands with them in many of their Tenets and practices, both of them condemne our English Lyturgie, and professe Recusancie: both of them Idolize their teachers, &c. Who hath bewitched them, that they should beleeve *Bedlam* shall be so farre enlarged, and the spirit of Frenzie possesse Old *England*, that they should have the like successe here, as their cozen germans the *Anabaptists* had at *Munster*? though we envy them not their *high preferment* in the end. After these fits of Convulsion are over, and Peace settled in the Body of the Kingdome, doe they think the wisdom of the State will ever change our holy Churches into their prophane Barnes and Stables? our Pulpits into Tubs? our Linnen Ephods into their Aprons? our Lyturgy into their extemporary Enthusiasmes? our Learned Pastors into their ignorant Hirelings? and our Apostolicall Hierarchy into their Apostaticall Anarchie? But I will restraine my selfe, and confine my discourse.

Soone after this Sermon, seven Articles were presented against the Doctor to the Committee for Plundered Ministers by three Mechanicks, who had formerly been indicted for *Brownists* at the Sessions for the Countie of *Surry*, but after long attendance the Doct. was acquitted of them; yet at length these Sectaries wrought so powerfully, that the Doctor must be committed to Prison, how unjustly soever, 'twas enough that he was a Doctor, and maintained the Religion established in the Church of *England*: And accordingly on the 30 of *Septemb.* 1643. he is committed to *Peter-house*, his own house, Library and goods being first seized on, and his estate Sequestred. The Sunday after his commitment, and for divers other Lords days, he preached to his fellow-prisoners, but after a while he was prohibited by *Isaac Pennington* the pretended Major of *London*. And though *Sir George Sands*, *Sir John Butler*, Master *Nevile*, and other Prisoners of qualitie Petitioned that he might  
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continue his so doing, yet it would not be granted.

See how this unjust imprisonment is relished by a Forraigne Divine, in these words:

**I** Am sorry to hear of the close Imprisonment of that worthy Doctor Featley; What? He who is, and ever hath bin so stout a Champion for Religion to be so used by the Reformers thereof? But let not the Disciple thinke it strange, when his Master suffered so much crueltie from the great Rabbins of Israel.

Yours from my heart, J.S.

After the Doctor had beene many moneths stifled up in Prison, and having a Certificate from his Physitian, that he could not live long, if he had not some fresh aire, he Petitioned these soule-enthrralling tyrants, and at last obtained leave to go to *Chelsey Colledge* for six weeks, upon good bayle, to recover his health; but it pleased God to take him out of this world, upon the 17 day of *April*, 1645. being the very last day of the six weekes limited for his returne.

During his sicknesse, he gave himselfe wholly to Divine Meditations, often bewayling with teares the present state of the Church of *England*: he made a Confession of his Faith to Doctor *Leo*, and the Dutch Ambassadours Chaplaines, saying, *That the doctrine which he had alwayes Preached, and the Bookes which he had Printed against Anabaptists and other Sectaris, were agreeable to Gods Word; And that he would seale the Protestant Religion, (as it was established and confirmed by the Acts of thre Pious Princes) with his blood.* And being asked by some that came to visit him, what he thought of the Covenant? he said, *It was a damnable and execrable Oath, made purposely to insnare poore soules, and full of malice and Treason against our gracious Souveraigne.* And said he, *For Church-Government. (a thing now much controverted) I dare*

dare boldly affirme, that the Hierarchie of Bishops is most agreeable to the Word of God, as being of Apostolicall Institution, the taking away whereof is damnable, and that by consequence, both the Presbyterian & Independent Governments are absurd and erroneous, neither of them being ever heard of in the Church of God, till of late at Geneva; nor is there so much as any colour for them in holy writ. It is evident (said he) that as the Priests in the Old Testament were above the Levites, so in the New the Apostles were above the Disciples, and that the seven Angels of the seven Churches in the Apocalypse were seven Bishops, and that Polycarpus was Bishop of Smyrna, and Timotheus of Ephesus. And for the Laity, no pregnant prooffe can be produced, that they ever medled with the Priests Function, or had any power to ordaine Ministers. And these things (said he) I intended to have published to the world, if God had spared me longer life, which I might (through his goodnesse) have enjoyed, had I not been unjustly imprisoned: which he severall times reiterated to his friends.

Anon after he prayed thus: Lord strike through the reynes of them that rise against the Church and King, and let them be as chaffe before the wind, and as stubble before the fire; let them be scattered as Partridges upon the mountaines, and let the breath of the Lord consume them, but upon our gracious Sovereigne and his posteritie, let the crowne flourish; This (said he) is the heartie and earnest Prayer of a poore sick creature. With which, and other such spirituall ejaculations, he expired.

## Mercurius Rusticus, &amp;c.

## XIX.

*The Murder of Master Robert Yeomans, and M. George Bowcher, Citizens of Bristol, by Nathaniel Fiennes, (second sonne to the Lord Say) and the rest of his Accomplises, &c.*

**T**He care that God tooke to preserve the Land of his people undefiled by Innocent blood was very great, and therefore did provide not onely when the *Murderer* was knowne, that he that shed mans blood, by man his blood should be shed againe, according to that command, *Ye shall not pollute the Land where ye are: for blood it defileth the Land, and the Land cannot be cleansed of the blood that is shed therein but by the blood of him that shed it: Numb. 35. 33.* But likewise, where the *Murderer* was not knowne, that the Innocent blood shed in the Land might not be charged upon them: and therefore in the 21 of *Deut.* God prescribes an Expiation for Murder when the *Murderer* was not knowne, for if a man were found slaine in the field, The Elders of the Citie next to the slaine man were to take an Heifer and strike off his necke in a rough valley, and shall wash their hands over the Heifer: and say, *Our hands have not shed this blood, Neither have our eyes seene it: Be mercifull O Lord unto thy people Israel whom thou hast redeemed, and lay not innocent blood unto thy people of Israels charge: and the blood shall be forgiven them: so shalt thou put away the guilt of innocent blood from among you: vers. 6 7, 8. &c.* In which law it is plaine, that the guilt of innocent blood may cleave to our hands though our hands have not shed it, and the way to wash our hands cleane from that guilt is to  
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protest against the shedding it, to deny our consent to it, being done, and as much as in us lyes, to bring the punishment of Innocent blood upon the heads of those that shed it; without this we contract anothers guilt and communicate in his sinnes. The Innocent blood shall not be forgiven us. When therefore God, to whom *appertaineth the issues of Life*, shall come and make *Inquisition* for blood, and the murdered shall cry out with *Job*, *O earth cover not thou my blood*: *Job* 16. 18. That then we may lift up pure hands undefiled with our neighbours blood, though but with consent and approbation; Nay, that we may free our selves from the blood of all men by earnest prayer to God, not to lay Innocent blood though shed by others to our charge, to inflame your devotion, I have, as it were, brought forth the bodies of these two State-Martyrs, Master *Robert Yeomans*, and Master *George Bowcher*, Citizens of *Bristol*, and exposed them to the view of the world, that so shedding some *teares* over their graves, they may remaine an Everlasting Monument of our *Innocency* in the sight of God, of our *Just indignation* against such crueltie in the sight of men, and a sweet oyntment to imbalme these men to their funeralls, that though with their Saviour (the ignominy of whose Crosse sanctified the death even of that accursed tree) in their death they were *numbred amongst the transgressors*, yet (Loyaltie being their Epitaph) they may make their graves amongst the Honourable.

But because to blind the eyes of the world not to see the cruell Injustice practised on these worthy Citizens, to amaze the minds of the people, and to take off from the odiousenesse of so foule a Murther, they did not onely in their lying Pamphlets proclame it unto the world, that Master *Yeomans*, Master *Bowcher*, and some other well-affected Members of that Citie had contrived a horrid Treason, that in the barbarousnesse of it did out-doe, the Powder Treason, having conspired at once to ruine the

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Protestant Religion, and to murder all those of that Citie which did adhere to the Parliament, but also to mock God (to that height of impietie they were growne) Solemne thanks were Ordained to be given for deliverance from so dangerous a conspiracy: It will not be amisse to derive this Tragedy by way of Historicall Narration from the first to the last Scene: that so the abused world may see what arts are used on that side to possesse themselves of the good opinion of men, that in the meantime they may practise cruelties unheard of, untill the bloody *Anabaptists* sprung up the most pernicious weeds that ever infested the Church of Christ.

When this Parliament first sate, these two Gentlemen with the rest of the Kingdome rejoyced to see that day, and stood at gaze as greedily as any, expecting what acts of bountie, what reliefe from grievances our Gracious Sovereigne through their hands would convey unto his Subjects. While their endeavours were Loyall, though roughly carryed; while bounded within the dutie of Subjects, though onely not exceeding it, they were as forward to applaud them as any: but after the publication of the *Remonstrance* by the House of Commons (that appeale to the people, and indeed the ground-worke of this present Rebellion by slandering the Kings Government) they that went one mile with them would not be compeld to goe two, especially after the way appeared dangerous, and apparently leading to open Rebellion: *Nullam esse Civitatem qua non improbos Civis aliquando & Imperitam Multitudinem semper habeat:* was the saying of the *Rhodii* in the *Roman Senate* recorded by *Livy*, lib. 45. There is no Citie but hath sometimes some ill-affected Citizens, but alwayes an Ignorant multitude, perhaps this in part might be the temper of *Bristol* at this time: but the Criticall time was now come, in which men must declare themselves either for the King or against him; and though many men in that Citie then were deeply Leavened



ned with disloyall principles, yet the major part of the Citie were the Kings faithfull Subjects, of this partie the most eminent men were, Master *Roberts Teomans* Sheriffe of *Bristol* for the yeare 1642. Master *George Sawber*, with divers others, men of good esteem, plentifull estates, knowne integritie, and true Children of the Church of *England*; These men seeing the miserable Condition of those places where the Rebels bare sway, and beginning to be sensible of the same bondage under Colonel *Essex*, enter into a Consultation how to put the Citie of *Bristol* into the Kings possession and protection: To this purpose they dispatch an Agent to the Court, to informe the King that he had many good Subjects in *Bristol*, and withall to signifie their desire to deliver up his owne Citie to himselfe, if he would be pleased to send some of his Forces thither, to take it.

The Reasons which prevailed with them, to make this tender unto His Majestie, were many, we may reduce them to three heads.

First, Conscience to God, not to resist the King. Knowing, that they that doe resist shall receive unto themselves damnation, and therefore resolved never to joyne themselves to the damnable Sect of the *Hotbomiers*, those Scate-Heretickes, who accounted it their dutie to keepe the Kings Townes for the Kings use, by shutting the Gates against the Kings Person.

The second Inducement was the frequent affronts given to His Majestie by the Rebels, to the great regret of every good Subject: and of these they give many Instances.

First, Scandalous and disloyall Speeches on all occasions belched out against His Majesties Person, His Protestations, Declarations, Proclamations, indeed all his Actions.

Secondly, Contempt of His Majesties gracious offers, even to the very face of His Messenger; for when in Fe-

bruary 1642. the King sent His gracious Letters to the Citie of *Bristol*, requiring them not to give admittance to any of the Parliament Forces, promising that Hee Himselfe would not impose any on them, but what they themselves should desire; together with the tender of many promises of his favour (given in charge to Sir *Baynham Troke* (whom he sent unto them for that purpose) yet notwithstanding at that very instant, in contempt (I say) of this great vouchsafement, The Major, *Richard Aldworth*, with *Browne* the Sheriffe, two Boutevues in perverting that Citie, with some other their Associates, did send foure peeces of Ordnance to *Marlborough*, there to be imployed against the King. And though Sir *Baynham*, upon information given unto him, did expostulate the affront with the Major, and in the Kings name commanded the stay of them; and though some of the wel-affected Citizens having notice of it, came and threw them off their Carriages, because they knew that the intencion was to imploy them against the King: yet over-borne by a greater number, who produced the Major and Sheriffs Warrant for their conveyance without let or interruption; they were Inforced to give way, and thither they were sent.

Thirdly, When in the beginning of *March*, 1642. amongst other Proclamations sent to *Bristol*, one was concerning the Kings Royall Navie, invaded and possessed by the Earle of *Warwicke*, and imployed against His Majestie and His Loyall Subjects; The King by that Proclamation forbidding all Sea-men, and Mariners, and all Officers of His Navie, to take employment under the Earle, or to obey His Commands, though Colonel *Fines* then Governour of *Bristol*, could have caused that Proclamation to be suppressed and not published, yet as much as he could to dishonour the King in the eyes of His Subjects, He permits it to be Proclaimed, that thence he might take occasion to blaspheme His Sovereigne:  
for

for being Proclaimed on Friday the third of *March*, the next day (*Saturday*) being the chiefe Market day, when the Market was fullest, that the newes might be carryed into all parts of the Country, and every one learne from so desperate an example to contemne their Soveraignes Commands: *Fines* comes in his Coach to the high Crosse attended by a Troope of Horse, and after a Declaration read, That the Proclamation published the day before was a Scandalous and Libellous Paper, and such as deserved to be burnt by the hand of a publique Hangman; he caused the Serjeant that Proclaimed it to burne it, holding Pistolls to his brest, and threatening to shoot him if he did not hold them high enough, fearing it seemes that so damnable, so unpardonable a Treason should want witnesses.

Lastly, As the direct end of their desire to deliver up the Citie to the Kings protection, was conscience of dutie to God and their Soveraigne, so the reflected end was their owne securitie, and quitting themselves of those Oppressions and Grievances under which they suffered; And these were many.

First, The often repeated Taxations and Loanes of Money unto the King and Parliament, as they were pleased to joyne them upon the thred-bare securitie of the *Publique Faith*, and if any man refused to lend on that credit which they had bankrupted long before, he was threatned with Imprisonment, Plundering, or which was worse then both, sending up to the Parliament: And to these may be added, the dayly drayning their purses by illegall exactions imployed for repaying the Castle, building of Forts, and maintaining a Garrison against the King.

Secondly, By urging upon them new and Treasonable Votes and Protestations: If not fully in words, yet in the the use and interpretation of them directly opposite to

the Oath of Allegiance, the Oath of the Citie taken by every Citizen when he is elected into the place of a Burgesse, in which they sweare in the sixth Article of that Oath, not to enter into any Oath or Confederacy against the King, contrary to the Lawes of the Land: and likewise contrary to the Protestation recommended from the Parliament to the Subjects of this Kingdome: The Oath (for the tenor of words) was this following.

**I** *A. B. doe protest and vow, in the presence of Almighty God, that I will to the utmost of my power, and to the hazard my life and fortunes, oppose all such Forces as shall attempt any thing against the Citie of Bristol, without the consent of the King and Parliament so to doe.*

In which Protestation, they tooke the name of the King in vaine, for when they say (*King and Parliament*) they meant the *two Houses* without the *King*, for if actions bee the best interpreters of the Agents words, it is more then manifest, that by the Protestation they intended to ingage that Citie in Rebellion against the King, and that under the tye of Religion. And for prooffe, I offer first their seconding this Protestation with another which spake more plainly, wherein they were to protest with their lives and fortunes to resist Prince *Rupert*, the Lord Generall the Earle of *Forth*, the Lord Marquesse *Heriford*; the Earle of *Newcastle*, Sir *Ralph Hopton* and their Forces; and secondly, because as before the tendering of this Protestation, they had received Colonel *Essex* to Command there for the Parliament; so within a few dayes after the first Protestation was tendered, they admitted Colonel *Popham* and Sir *Edward Hungerford*, with their Regiments, and afterward Colonel *Fines* without any oppositiog, that so now being backed with so strong a power, they might make the latter Protestation the interpreter of the former. Upon the Petition of Mistresse *Mayoreffe*, the Lady

Lady Rogers, Mistresse Holsworth, Mirelle Vicaris, with other Zealous Sisters, to the number of a hundred.

Thirdly, By disarming all such as were any wayes suspected to beare a good and loyall affection to His Majestie, unlesse they would take such Protestations as should be tendered to them, and having taken away such Armes as they found, (not satisfied with this) they urge on them another Protestation, protesting in the sight of God, and calling him to witnesse, that they had no other Armes concealed in their houses, either their owne or others: and if any man refused to take this Protestation, he was instantly imprisoned as an enemy to the State, and a man not to be confided in.

Fourthly, The perpetuall scorn and obloquy to which they were exposed, reproached every day as they passed the streets, with names of Malignants, and Papists; nay, as if they had beene worse then Jewes, they spit at them, and threaten to take a speedy course with them.

Fifthly, The generall contempt and prophanation of Gods holy Worship and Service, rending of Surplices, tearing the Booke of Common Prayer, breaking downe Organs, exterminating the whole Liturgy out of their Congregations, and all these Out-rages, not only winked at, but countenanced and encouraged by *Finis* and his fellow Rebells; and that they might have *Like People, Like Priest*, They discountenance or drive away the Orthodox Ministers, and substitute in their places the most infamous notorious Schismaticks that they can pick out of severall Countreies, as *Tomb's* of *Lemster* in *All-Saints*, in *Master Williamsons* Cure an Orthodox and godly man; *Craddocke, Bacon, Walter, Simonds*, and *one Matthew Hazard*, whom though I name last, yet deserves to have the precedency of all the rest, as being a maine Incendiary in this Rebellion, violently egged on by his Wife, whose disciple the silly man is: this gave occasion of Scandall to all pious godly men, which honoured the Prote-

stant Religion as it is established, and made them even to abhorre the service of the Lord.

Lastly, because upon the poynt they were confined to *Bristol*, not daring to goe out of the Citie, for in all places, where the Commands and Ordinances of the two Houses prevailed, they had given a List of the names of the Malignants that durst appeare for the King, to the end, that if any of them came thither, they might be apprehended and sent Prisoners to *Taunton*, *Barkley Castle*, or some other Prisons; or as Delinquents sent to the Parliament.

It was no wonder therefore, that a Citie thus robb'd of its wealth and libertie, groaning under an unsupportable yoke of bondage and tyranny, should endeavour by restoring the King to His Rights, to restore themselves to their former freedom; which could not be done but by breaking these bonds, and casting these cords from them; On these weightie motives therefore, they enter into a loyall confederacy to deliver up the Citie from its captivity under the Rebels into His Majesties protection, and that without shedding of one drop of blood if it were possible, but most certaine without any resolution to Murther the Citizens, as hath beene most falsely both Preached and Printed: for Master *Teomans* and *Bowcher*, both on their Examinations, and after their Condemnation both affirmed, that their was not any intention of blood-shed; and in the Examinations of Master *Teomans* and others, taken before the Councell of Warre at *Bristol*, sent up by Master *Clement Walker* Usher of the Exchequer, but since Advocate to that Congregation of Murderers that adjudged these Innocents to death, and Ordered by the House of Commons, *Die Luna, 22 Maii, 1643.* to be Printed, we thus read, pag. 3. *The King had also assured us, and given charge to Prince Rupert, that no violence should be used to any, which I doe beleieve was his full intent, the rather, for that I heare there came a Proclamation to that effect:*

effect: Where 'tis observable, that *Walker* (a man that had his hands stained with his owne Wives blood before he dipped them so deepe in these Martyrs,) though in that contrived Confession of Master *Teomans*, he brings him in, professing his Conviction in conscience of the justnesse of the Parliaments Cause (when 'tis knowne, that if he would have recanted, and contributed towards this unnaturall Warre, he and Master *Bowcher*, both might have saved their lives) yet he dares not so to murder his fame after his person, by charging upon him so bloody a Crime, as an intention to Massacre his fellow Citizens.

'Tis therefore confessed on all hands, That Master *Teomans*, Master *Bowcher*, and others, had an intention to cast out the Rebels, and to deliver *Bristol* into the Kings possession, resolving to secure the persons of the Governour and some others of the chiefest Rebels, but not to kill them: To this purpose, a Commission is obtained and sent to Master *Robert Teomans* to raise Forces, and constitute Commanders for the Kings service. Master *George Bowcher* contrives a Protestation to be taken by all that joyned themselves to this Association, fully expressing the latitude of their intentions in that undertaking: The Protestation is extant in Master *Bowchers* Examination taken by *Walker*, on the 10 of *March*, 1642: and published in the Booke before mentioned: and is attested under his owne hand, which I have seene, and was Written not long before his death. The Protestation was this:

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**I** Doe voluntarily protest before Almighty God, upon the Faith of a Christian, That I will to the utmost of my power, and with the hazard of my life and fortunes, defend my Dread Sovereigne Lord King Charles, His Rights, Crown, and Dignitie, against all Force and Forces which are or shall be raysed within His Majesties Dominions without His Royall Assent, Authoritie, and Command. Which was the summe of this pretended horrid Treason.

After communication of Counsells, and many Messages interchanged betweene Oxford and Bristol, drawing some of Colonel *Essex* his Commanders into the Combination, who loathed and condemned themselves in their owne employment, it was resolved; that upon Monday the seventh of *March*, 1642. Prince *Rupert*, with a partee of the Kings Forces, should face the Citie on *Durdan Downe*, distant not a full mile from the Citie, and for the Association in the Citie, their taske was to make good two Ports, *Proome-gate* and *New-gate*: who having seized on the Guards, were to open the Gates, and to signifie the accomplishment of the designe, to the Kings Forces to make their approach by the Ringing of Saint *Johns* and Saint *Michaels* Bells: Prince *Rupert* a vigilant and valiant Prince, comes that Monday night to the place appoynted, expecting the next morning by five of the clocke the signall to be given, and the Ports opened unto him: but that night (whether by negligence amongst their owne, or vigilancy of the Rebels, is uncertaine) the Combination was discovered, and Master *Tcomans*, Master *Bowcher*, and divers others, were that night apprehended in their houses, having some armed men with them, and were instantly committed to safe custody; which being signified to the Prince, he immediately withdrew his Forces, and marched away.

And now having them in their power, they clap Irons  
on



on them, tye them head and feet together, commit them close Prisoners, deprive them of all comfort to be administered by their Wives or Children, or Friends, and used them with that barbarousnesse and inhumanitie as cannot be imagined, could be practised by one Christian upon another; and after seventie six dayes hard Imprisonment, ostent examination, barbarous insulting over them, especially by *Nathaniel Fines*, they were brought to their tryall, at a Councel of War; where Articles being exhibited against them by Advocate *Walker*, they received Sentence of death: what the Articles exhibited against *M. Yeomans* were, may be collected out of the Sentence it selfe, as we find it in *pag. 4.* of the before mentioned Booke of *M. Yeomans* his examinations, published by command of the House of Commons, which for satisfaction of such as shall cast a compassionate eye on this sad story we have here inserted.

### *The Judgement upon Robert Yeomans.*

UPON due consideration of the Articles exhibited on *May 8.* by *Clement Walker* Esquire, Advocate to this Councell of Warre, against *Robert Yeomans*, and others the late Conspirators in this Citie, and upon due hearing of the Answers, and defence of the said *Robert* to the severall Articles, and also upon examination and proofes before them taken upon Oath. It is unanimously adjudged by this Court, That the said *Robert Yeomans* is guiltie of trayterous intelligence, and correspondency with the Enemy, and of a trayterous and wicked conspiracy to betray this Towne into the hands of the Enemy; and thereupon this Court doth adjudge and passe Sentence of death upon him as a Traytor and Conspirator; and accordingly doth order, That the said *Roberts Yeomans* shall be returned to the place of his former Imprisonment, and from

from thence be brought before the maine Court of Guard,  
there to be hanged by the neck till he dye :

*Nath. Fines, Richard Cole, Wal. White, James Ford, Joh. Clifton, Joh. Chamneys, Tho. Hippestly, Martin Husbands, Tho. Raulins, Rich. Hippestly, Tho. Eyre, Tho. Goodere, James Hean, Tho Wallis, Will. Bowel, Robert Baugh.*

To this bloody Sentence I have added the names of that bloody Conspiracy of Murtherers that gave it, that their names and memory may stinke with posteritie, and be loathsome to all Generations that shall hereafter read and bemoane the condition of their predecellour that groaned under the tyranny of a prevayling Faction of *Brownists* and *Anabaptists*.

Master *Robert Yeomans* being thus most unjustly condemned, May 8. on the 22 of the same Moneth, Master *George Bowcher* was called before *Fines* and the rest of that Rebellious crew which called themselves a Councell of Warre, and that you may ghesse at the whole by some; *william Bowel* was a Pedant, and from whipping of boyes was made an unrighteous Judge of men; *James Heane* a drunken Atturney; and *Robert Baugh* a Sheep-skinne dresser, who in the times of peace durst not come neare Master *Yeomans*, but uncovered at a distance as his duty was, now pluck'd off Master *Yeomans* his Hat, commanding him to stand bare before him: the Articles exhibited by *Walker* their Advocate were seven, Recorded under Master *Bowchers* owne hand, whereof the maine and first they insisted on, was,

1. First, That he had framed a Protestation to defend the King, His Crowne and Dignitie, against, &c. The Protestation which you heard before.

2. Second-

2. Secondly, That he had rayfed Men, and provided Armes and Ammunition of all sorts, Crowes of Iron, Pick-axes, Axes and Iron wedges, with Torches and Linkes, to further the Designe of suppressing the Court of Guard at Froome-gate.

3. Thirdly, That he conspired with others to let in Prince Rupert, a forraigne Prince (as they stiled him) who being entred the Citie, should put to death and Plunder all the Inhabitants of that Citie that came not out to assist and joyne with them.

4. Fourthly, That he did undertake to give Prince Rupert a signall when he shou'd make his approaches to the Citie, by Ringing Saint Johns and Saint Michaels Bells.

5. Fifthly, That he certified Prince Rupert, that the Designe of giving him entrance into the Towne was discovered, and advised him to retreat.

6. Sixthly, That he forced open the Crowd doore (being a buriall place under the Quire) under Saint John Baptist Church, with an intention to use it for a Prison, to secure such as shou'd make resistance, whether they were of the Guard or others, while they were in pursuance of their Desigue.

Lastly, That he had Larks and other Provisions to chaine up the passages at Saint Johns-gate, in case any of the Parliament Horse should rush in upon them while the worke was in doing.

These Articles, though maliciously exprested and aggravated, yet for the matter of them, were drawne either from his owne Confessions, or Depositions of others, and upon these, at the Lady Rogers her house, he received the like Sentence of death, as Master Yeomans had done before.

When the report of so illegall, proceedings arrived at Court, though at first few men did thinke that their bold insolency would goe on to put the Sentence in execution;

yet

yet at last considering, that they were in the hands, not of honourable enemies, but of Rebels; and of Rebels that were Sectaries, and which was more then both, Rebellious Sectaries at the devotion of Master *Fins*, who did command in chiefe, and had strong influence on the rest. The Earle of *Forth*, Lord Lieutenant of all His Majesties Forces, resolved to write unto *Fines*, and that by way of Threat, *Pari penâ exactâ, ut hostes à superbo & insolenti supplicio temperarent*, as *Diodorus Siculus* reports of *Philotetus* in the like case; that by the menace of the like punishment on the Prisoners here, he might stave them off from their intended crueltie on the Kings good Subjects there: for thus he writes,

*Patrick* Earle of *Forth*, Lord *Etterick*,  
and Lord Lieutenant of all His Majesties Forces.

**I** Having beene informed, that lately at a Court of warre, you have condemned to death Robert Yeomans, late Sheriffe of the Citie of Bristol, who hath His Majesties Commission for raising a Regiment for his service, William Yeomans his Brother, George Bowcher and Edward Dacres, all for expressing their Loyaltie to His Majestie, and endeavouring his service, according to their Allegiance, and that you intend to proceed speedily against divers others in the like manner: Doe therefore signifie unto you, That I intend speedily to put Master George, Master Stevens, Captaine Huntly, and others taken in Rebellion against His Majestie at Cyrencester, into the same condition: Do further advertise you, That if you offer by that unjust judgement to Execute any of them, you have so condemned

*demned, that those now in custody here, especially Master George, Master Stevens, and Captain Huntly, must expect no favour or mercy.*

Given under my hand at Oxford, this 16 of May, 1643.

*To the Commander in Chiefe, and  
the Councell of Warre in the Citie  
of Bristol.*

FORTH.

Having received this Letter by a Drum, and knowing the the great advantage they had by the meannesse and basenesse of the Prisoners in the Kings hands, put in the ballance with those of the Kings in their hands, while Earles, Barons, and the flower of the Nobilitie and Gentry were exposed to blew Aprons and Broome-men, *Fishes* knowing this advantage, returnes this insolent Answer.

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**Nathaniel Fiennes Governour, and  
the Councell of Warre in the City  
of BRISTOL.**

**H**AVING received a Writing from your Lordship, wherein it is declared, That upon information of our late proceedings against Robert Yeomans, William Yeomans, & others, you intend speedily to put Master George Master Stevens, Captain Huntly, and others into the same condition. We are well assured, That neither your Lordship, nor any mortall man, can put them into the same condition; for whether they live or dye, they will alwayes be accounted true and honest men, faithfull to their King and Country, and as in a faire and open way have alwayes prosecuted

zed that Cause, which in their Judgement, guided by the Judgement of the Highest Court, they held the justest : Whereas, the Conspirators of this Citie must both in life and death carry perpetually with them the brand of Treachery and Conspiracy. And if Robert Yeomans had made use of his Commission in an open way, he should be put into no worse condition then others in the like kind had beene : But the Law of Nature amongst all men, and the Law of Armes amongst all Souldiers, maketh a difference betweene open Enemies, and secret Spyes and Conspirators : And if you shall not make the like distinction, we doe signifie unto you, That we shall not onely proceed to the execution of the persons already condemned, but also of divers others of the Conspirators, unto whom we had some thoughts of extending mercy : And doe advertise you, That if by any inhumane, and unsouldier-like sentence you shall proceed to the execution of the persons by you named, or any other of our friends in your custody, that have beene taken in faire and open way of Warre ; then Sir Walter Pye, Sir William Crofts, Colonel Connesby, and divers others taken in open Rebellion, and a small Warre against the King and Kingdome, whom we have here in custody, must expect no favour or mercy. And by Gods blessing, upon our just Cause, we have power enough for our friends securitie, without taking in any that have gotten out of our reach and power; although divers of yours, of no mean qualitie and condition, have beene freely released by us.

Given under our hands this 18 day of May, 1643.

Nath. Fiennes, President.

To Patrick Earl of Forth,  
Lord Lieut. General.

Clement Walker, &c.

When

When this tooke no effect, the King, gracious as he is, and full of goodnesse, His bowels yearning over the destruction of His worst Subjects, takes the condition of these that suffer for him into his pious consideration; and since *Fines* swaying the rest remained obstinate; the King by a Trumpeter sends His Letter to the Major, Aldermen, and Sheriffs of *Bristol*, commanding them to rayse the power of the Citie, and imploy it to the rescue of these men designed for slaughter: Thus He writes.

CHARLES R.

**T***rustie and Welbeloved We greet you well. Whereas We are informed, That by the power and Authority of certain Factions and Rebellious Persons in that Our Citie of Bristol, diverse of Our good Subjects (as namely, Robert Yeomans, George Bowcher, William Yeomans, Edward Dacres, and others) of that Our Citie are imprisoned for preserving their Dutie and Loyaltie to Us, and for refusing to joyne in, or assist this horrid and odious Rebellion against Us, and that the said wicked and trayterous Persons, have presumed to condemn the said innocent men to dye, and upon such their sentence, notoriously against the Lawes of God and Man, they intend to execute and murder Our said Subjects; We have thought fit to signifie to you, the Major, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and the rest of the body of the Common Councell of that Our Citie, That if you suffer this horrid and execrable myrther to be committed*  
upon

upon the persons aforesaid, and thereby call the Judgement of God, and bring perpetuall infamy upon that Our Citie, We shall looke upon it as the most barbarous and inhumane Act that hath beene yet committed against Us, and upon you as the most desperate betrayers of Us, and of the lives and liberties of your fellow Subjects. And We doe therefore will and command you, not to suffer any violence to be done upon the persons aforesaid, but that if any such be attempted against them, that you raise all the power and strength of that Our Citie for their rescue. And to that purpose, We command all Our good Subjects of that Our Citie; to ayde and assist you upon their Allegiance, and as they hope for any Grace and favour at Our hands; And that you and they Kill and Slay all such who shall attempt or endeavour to take away the lives of Our said Subjects, And for so doing this shall be your Warrant. And hereof you may not faile at your utmost Perill.

Given at Our Court at Oxford the 29 of  
May, 1643.

To Our Trustie and Welbeloved the  
Major, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and  
the rest of the Common Councell  
of Our Citie of BRISTOL.

This



This Letter arrived at *bristol* that very day that these Gentlemen by laying downe their lives did beare a good testimony to the truth, but came too late; yet had it come sooner, *Fines* having intelligence that a Letter was coming from the King, kept the Gates shut to keepe out the Messenger, untill their intended Murthers were fully finished: But at last, when he had admittance, contrary to the Law of Arms and Nations, *Fines* committed him to prison, where he remained long.

All these indeavours of a pious Prince to rescue His faithfull Subjects, being frustrated by the obstinate malice of these bloody Rebels, and having no force to compell what he could not perswade, they goe on to act their cruell intentions. After Sentence of death passed on them, they pursue them with threats, and use no language to them but death and hanging, often menacing what they could but once inflict: So that each night they thought to dye next morning: Having some dayes languished under the insulting Crueltie of these bloody Butchers, and being frequently robbed of their necessary food by the Centinells, (that stood at their Prisons, not so much that they might not withdraw themselves from the intended death, as to intercept all comforts that were brought unto them) had they not hastned the execution, famine would have saved them that labour: for Master *Yeomans* (whom of the two they most hated) laden with chaines, stifled with the nastinesse of a Dungeon, macerated with want of food, but filled with the scornfull reproofe of the proud, reproached every day with the name of bloody villaine, and the like, was like to have prevented their malice by dying that morning that he dyed: he was a man of a magnanimous spirit, a large Soule fit for great employments, and therefore more sensible of indignities, for great spirits oppressed like Tapers held downward, are extinguished by the same matter which gives them life; so that sitting by his deare Wife that morning

O

ning that he dyed, and leaning on her brest, he fell into a sound, and in probabilitie had then departed, had not the thriekes and out-eryes of his Wife recalled him to a more glorious death, that so posteritie might read his name, together with Master *Bowchers*, not in the Catalogue of *Confessours*, but inrolled in the *Noble Army of Martyrs*.

When the time of their Marrydome drew neare, Colonel *Fines*, for teare the Citie should oppose his bloody intentions, concealed the time resolved on to put them in execution: But when the fatall day was come, *Fiennes* drew his Forces into the Marsh, the common place where they made their Musters: he caused the Gates suddenly to be shut, the Citie not knowing his intention, and presently drew Partees of Horse and Foot into every street, to awe the Citizens, and to suppress insurrections, if haply they should recover so much of the ancient courage of true Englishmen, not to suffer so great a breach to be made on their lives and liberties, as to see their fellow Citizens led to the slaughter, and they in the mean time stand dumb like sheep and not oppose it: nor was it without good reason that *Fiennes* should suspe& some opposition from the Citie, for (besides that, they now saw the basest of the Citie made of the Councell of Warre, and the power of life and death over the Magistrates delivered in their hands, that before this Rebellion were never thought fit to beare the office of a Scavenger) Master *Teomans* and Master *Bowcher*, were men of Eminency in the Citie, generally beloved, and their Crime knowne to be nothing but Loyaltie, That they could not likewise but consider, that an issue of blood was that day opened that might in time prove fatall to them, & involve them in the same Condition, for if *Fiennes* and his blood-hounds shall for any other virtue passe the like Sentence on any of them, as they did on these for their Loyaltie, not conspiring with them to murder their Sovereigne, what power shall

shall protect them from such oppression, who having to their owne ruine refused the Kings protection, are grown so tame, as not with the hazard of their lives to protect themselves?

Having thus made all secure, they bring the Prisoners from the Castle to the maine Court of Guard, in the way as they went, the people greedy to see, and salute these unhappy assertors of their libertie, presse to the hazard of many blowes to take their farewell of them, they in a courteous deportment, returning heartie thanks for those dangerous expressions of their affections, for it was reason enough to be committed as a Malignant to own them, or so much as to pray for them.

To prepare themselves for their death, they made it an humble request, that they might have the assistance of Master *Wogood* and Master *Standfast*, two Orthodox and Learned and Pious Ministers of the Citie, to helpe to sweeten that bitter Cup of which they were to drinke, and by spirituall comfort to take off from the sharpnesse of those dregs which they were to suck up: but as if they meant to murder their Soules as well as their bodies, to vex their righteous Soules instead of comforting them against the approach of death, they refuse to condescend to so reasonable a request, and impole on them *Cradock* and *Fowler*, two Emislaries sent to that Citie, to poyson it with Schisme and Rebellion, that so they might fill up the measure of their sinnes and ripen them for destruction.

Standing at the foot of the Tree, that by and by was to beare fruit unto eternall life, it was observed by some of these Murderers (well skil'd it seems in the art & Method of hanging) that the Halters were too long, or too short, or else not tyed fast enough, some fault there was which the deaths man had directions to correct, he obeying the directions of the chief Hang-man, goes up & takes off the halters, the people, who came thither spectators of this bloody

Tragedy, standing at distance, and not privy to the intention, fondly conceited, that certainly Colonel *Fiennes* had sent a Reprieve, and instantly expressed the greatnesse of their Joy by the loudnesse of their Acclamations, Never considering *Fienes* his Extraction, being borne and bred in a family *Sworne Enemies to Monarchy and all that love it*: At last, seeing the Guards stand fix'd, and that this stay was but to make surer worke, the Executioner fastning his Instruments of death, according to the directions given him by them, whose journey-man he was, The people, as if strooke with thunder, or blasted with lightnings stood amazed, untill at last, astonishment giving way to Compassion, they sent out teares instead of Acclamations, and exchanged their joy for lamentations.

All things thus made ready to offer up these Innocents, sacrifices to the implacable rage of *Fienes* and his fellow Rebels, Master *Robert Teomans* is first commanded to ascend the Ladder, thence to reach his *Crowne of Martyrdom*. But remembring whose pietie it was, in the midst of his sufferings to recommend his Mother to the care of a Guardian (being himselfe to leave this world) he first makes his addresse to his Father-in-law Master *Teomans*, and tels him, that he had left him a Legacy, viz. his Wife then great with-child, and eight small children, the eldest not able to put on its owne cloathes: and so with many imbracements left him, and set forward in his way to Heaven.

And now being seated in that place of shame and Ignominy (so it is in its own Nature where the goodnesse of the Cause doth not change the *accursed Tree* into a *Theater of honour*) and finding himselfe made a *spectacle* to that Citie wherein he had lived in plentie and honour, being *Sheriffe* but the yeare before, in discharge of which office he was interiour to none of his Predecessors in bountie and magnificence, which Colonel *Popham* and his

his friends by frequent experince know very well : And from that sad prospect, taking a view of many friends that could hardly looke through their owne teares to see him againe : And from thence too, seeing some of a farre different affection that rejoyced in his sufferings, and amongst them *Robert Baugh* the Sheeps-skin-dresser (*Fines* his associate in the Councell of Warre) in a devilish crueltie (And let God that righteous Judge require it at his hands) stand jeering and mocking at him to his face, here *flesh and blood* interposed, which transported him to an expostulation bordering betweene Indignation and Submission, saying, *Good God, what have I done to be here?* But instantly sorry that humane frailtie should extort any thing from him, unbeseeming the Justice of his cause, or the bravenesse of Christian resolution, silencing suggestions of such ill Councillours, he composed himselfe to speake something to the people.

His strength exhausted by long and many sufferings, disabled him to speake much or loud, yet willing to cleare himselfe from that prejudice under which he lay, of an intention to Massacre all that should adhere to the Two Houses (which some mis-call a Parliament) laying his hand upon his brest, and fixing his eyes on Heaven, the habitation of the God of Truth, he made a solemn Protestation of his innocency from any such thought: he professed his firme perswasion of the justice of that cause for the defence of which he suffered, affirming, that if he had more lives he would sacrifice them all to the service of His Sovereigne in the same way: and therefore wee may justly wonder at the frontlesse impudence of that *Clement Walker*, that should tell the world in Print, That Master *Teesmans* did confesse, that he was *convicted in conscience of the justnesse of the Parliaments Cause*: But they that know the man, and that poore stock, either of Religion or Honestie which he hath, need not wonder, that he that before this Parliament made it his frequent

Theame to declaime against *Puritans*, should now (judging them to be the prevailing Faction) to indeare himselfe unto them: first embrew his hands in this Gentlemans blood, and then report him falsely to posteritie, as if he had recanted that Loyaltie, for which, and in which, he professed he dyed.

While he was thus speaking to the people, Serjeant Major *Langridge* and *Clifton*, call upon the Executioner to hasten the worke: Nay, they did not stick to interrupt Master *Tcomans* in his discourse, and to goad him on the sides and thighs with their Halberts, bidding him to contract and make an end: hereupon he desired the witnesses of his suffering, to sing with him the 130 *Psalme*, which he sung with great elevation of spirit and fervency of devotion, knowing that presently he should be translated from this *Dothim* the valley of teares, where we doe not so much as sing or sigh out our Hymnes into that triumphant Quire, where with Angells, and Archangells, and all the powers of Heaven, he should sing Hallelujahs & Anthems of Joy for evermore. Having finished the *Psalme* and some other Prayers, and amongst the rest, instantly beseeching God, not to charge his death upon that Citie, nor require his Innocent blood at their hands: prayed for his Persecutors, and adjured his friends not to harbour a thought of revenge, he began againe to make some addresse to the people, challenging the world *there* to testifie against him, if he had wronged any man, and beginning to apologize for his Innocency, even in the very cause of his death, *Langridge* and *Clifton*, the chiefe Hang-man under *Fines* their Master, knowing how much his words might prevaile with the people, and that one *Martyr falling quickly springs up into many Converts*, caused him instantly to be throwne off, hardly giving him so much time as in some short ejaculations to recommend his Soule to God: and now, *there* he is under the Altar, and joynes in that shrill cry that calls loud in the eares of  
God,

God, *How long, O Lord, holy and true, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?* Rev. 6 10. Being thrown off, and his body swinging with the fall, his Brother in-law Master *John Haggat*, an honest Gentleman, and of good qualitie in the Citie, put out his hand to stay it, which (that inhumane villaine) *Clifton* seeing, strook him with his Cane, with that violence, that he had almost stroken him to the ground: good God! which shall we most wonder at, either the barbarous inhumanitie of this Murtherer, or the degenerous Ignoble patience of the Citizens of *Bristol*, that could stand by and see all this, and not choose either to live freely, or dye couragiously together?

Having had sufficient experience of the *Tameness* of the Citizens, and that there was no danger of opposition to be feared from them, the Rebels wade on in blood. And having murdered Master *Yeomans*, they command Master *Bowcher* to ascend the Ladder: It seemes by what he left written by his own hand, and written to that purpose to communicate it to the world, that he intended to be large, Exhorting those (to use his own words) who *had set their hands to the Plow* (meaning the maintenance of the Kings cause) *not to be too hasty* (as terrified with their sufferings) *to take them off: nor to regard those beggerly and Schismaticall rudiments which craftie and malicious men had invented and introduced into the Church of God in these last and worst times of the world, denying the Truth, & bringing in damnable positions of their own devising, &c.* And likewise, giving an exact Character of the Schismatics that domineere at this time in the draught, borrowing the pencil of the Holy Ghost, I mean, describing them in the Phrase of the Scriptures, a man very well able to doe it, being versed in the Scriptures, a frequent hearer of Sermons, and by the testimony of his very enemies, confessed, to be a Religious man: *Proud* (sayes he) *They are Boasters, Headie, Unstable, who censure as unjust the actions of others, before they receive*

resolution from God; or rightly understand his will touching their owne, having hearts fraught with malice, incessantly labouring to bring to passe their devilish designs by pestilent Plots, dawbing and painting them over with false glosses against the light of their owne conscience, and against that knowledge which they have in the Lawes, both of God and Man; justifying the wicked, and condemning the innocent, &c. This was too much truth to be spoken to them whom it did so much concerne, and therefore was not permitted to speake so largely to the Assembly: at last, pressed on to hasten his death, by those that are swift to shed blood, he desired to sing *Psal. 16.* which being ended, he began to recommend his Soule to God in most pious patheticaall Prayers and ejaculations; but they are not content that he should speake either to the People or to his God; For *Roswell*, a *Levise* of their owne, and a craft-braind Separatist, interrupts him in the midst of his Devotions, reviles him, and calls him *Hypocrite* and *Apostate*, That after so strict a conversation, so much time spent in the profession of Religion, he should render all suspected for hypocrisie, by so obstinate perseverance in his Rebellion against the Parliament, he meant for dying for his Loyaltie to his Sovereigne: all this moved not the constancy of this resolved Martyr, but according to the advise of *Saint Bernard*, he held up *scutum conscientie contra Gladium Linguae*, the buckler of a good conscience toward the blowes of a malicious Tongue, *Serm. 43. De modo bene vivendi.* Knowing that as the flattering Tongue is no cure for a bad; so the rayling Tongue is no wound to the good conscience, possessing his Soule therefore in patience, he lets this snarling Dogge bark on, resolving with holy *Job*, *Ecce in caelo Testis meus, Behold my witnesse is in Heaven, and my Record is on high: Job 16. 19.* And so sustaining his Soule under the burden of that reproach, with that comfortable promise of our Saviour, *Blessed are ye when men shall revile you and per-*



persecute you, and shall say a'l manner of euill against you  
falsly for my sake, Rejoyce and be exceeding glad, for great  
is your reward in Heaven: Mat. 5. 11, 12. He yeelded  
himselſe to the will and deſire of his Murtherers, This  
Roſewelk, in his very fall from the Lader, perſuuing him with  
the odious names of *Hypocrite* and *Apoſtate*, thereby (if  
it had beene poſſible) to diſturbe the peace of his *Soule*,  
and indaſenger his *Charitie* in that very inſtant when he  
was going out of the World, and ready to be preſented  
at the dreadfull Tribunall of that moſt Righteous Judge,  
*who putteth no truſt in his Saints, yea the Heavens are not  
care in his ſight*, Job 15. 15. a practice ſo voyd of Chri-  
ſtianitie, nay ſo perfectly devilish to extend malice even  
to the endeavours of a ſecond death, That had a black  
Angell beene diſpatched from Hell, (an agent for that  
kingdome of darkneſſe) he could not have done more to  
advance damnation, or approve himſelſe a malicious  
emiſſary of that bottomeleſſe pit, then this Schiſmatique  
did.

Theſe two now glorious Martyrs, having thus through  
their ignominious death's rendered their Soules to God,  
the ſpectators ſmite their breſts and returne: Never  
was there ſo generall a face of ſorrow, ſuch bitter la-  
mentation heard In that Citie, as on this day: Their  
bodies taken downe, were both carried to Maſter *Teo-  
mans* his houſe, Father in-law to Maſter *Teomans*: In  
the evening Maſter *Bowchers* body was conveyed to his  
owne houſe, a ſad ſpectacle to his poore Widdow and  
ſeven Orphans, and that night they were both interr'd,  
Maſter *Teomans* at *Chriſt Church*, and Maſter *Bowcher*  
at *Saint Warburgh's*; their Funeralls being attended  
by thoſe Orthodox Miniſters that the perſecution had  
left, and by moſt of the honeſt well-affected Citizens;  
though they knew that they could not expreſſe this piety  
to the dead, but to the hazard of loſing their liberties, and  
plundering their eſtates.

Thus

Thus have you scene the Martyrdome of these Loyall Citizens, suffering for their *Religion*, by *Sectaries* and *Atheists*; for their *Loyaltie*, by *Traytors* and *Rebells*; and for their *Lawes* and *Liberties*, by *Libertines* and *sonnes of Belial*; a Fact so horrid, and in which so many Acts of Crueltie and Injustice did meet and concentre, that as no History (not that of the *Anabaptists* of *Germany*) can give us a Paralell of this Rebellion, so this Rebellion cannot give us a Paralell of this Murther, except that of Master *Tompkins*, and Master *Chaloner* at *London*, in the same manner.

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*FINIS.*

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Mercurius Rusticus :

OR,

*The Countries Complaint,*

OF

The Sacriledges, Prophanations,  
and Plundrings, Committed  
by the Schismatiques, on the Cathedral Churches of this

KINGDOME.

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MATTH. 21. 13.

*My house shall be called the house of Prayer, but  
ye have made it a den of Theeves.*

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OXFORD,

Printed in the Yeare, 1646.



## The Preface.

**T***He Author of the French History, relating that horrid Rebellion of the holy League in France, the Prototype of the present Rebellion in England, gives this definition or Character of one of those Zealots: The Essentiall forme (said he) of a Zealous Catholike in the Holy League, was to Rob and Prophanе Churches, to Ravish Wives, and Virgins, to murder Men against the Altars, to spoyle the Clergy, not to be the Kings Servants, which that age held for a Crime, but to vomite out against him, all the indignities, and all the wickednesses which Irreligion, and Injustice could invent in mad Souldiers: do but change Zelous Catholike into Zelous Puritan, and no Pencil ever limb'd a Rebell of this present Rebellion so exactly to the life as this: And though they have out-done all examples, presidents of Wickednesse, Crueltie, Disloyaltie, Sacriledge, and Prophanation, as if in them the devill meant to shew his Master-piece, raging in them horribly, because he knows that he hath but a short time, yet to their dishonouring of God, their vilifying his holy worship, prophaning his*  
Tem-

## THE PREFACE.

*Temples, blaspheming the footsteps of his Anointed, affronting and contemning his Priests, & Ministers, to their rending, tearing, & trampling underfoot all Hallowed Ornaments and Utensills, provided for the reverend and decent worship of God; I know nothing that they have left undone, which remaines yet to be added to their accursed impieties: So that what the old Eustathians, Messaliās, Fratricelli, & the rest of those wild Hereticks, (who placed their Religion in Contempt of Consecrated Churches, Temples, and Oratories, places consecrated, and set apart for the publique worship of God) durst not do. These Schismaticall Rebels, (having wilfully smothered, not only their Consciences, but the dictate of common reason) putting no difference between Holy & Prophane, have acted with greedines: what soever things they are, whereon the Name of God is called, whether Persons, times or places, in the judgment of venerable Antiquity; whether Councils, Fathers or Historians, those things were ever held Sacred & Inviolable, alwayes habenda cum Discrimine, and that extra Usum Sacrum, to be regarded with a reverentiall, and discriminative ulance, that is, with a select and different respect from other things of the same kind, but not employed to holy Uses: Nay, the honouring Gods house, was ever held an Ingredient of that Petition of the Lords Prayer, Sanctificetur Nomen tuum, Hallowed be thy Name:*  
*What*

## THE PREFACE.

*What opinion the Ancient Fathers, both Greeke and Latine, had of such places, may be collected from those Magnificent, and honourable Names, whereby they commended them to the due esteeme of severall Ages in which they lived: Some in regard of their use and imployment called them the Lords house, some the Patrimony of Christ, some the Dowry of the Spoule of Christ, some a Consecrated Possession of God, and a holy Soyl: Others, in respect of their Magnificence of Structure, and Coltlinesse of Ornaments, called them Royall or Kingly Houses: Nay, would we but sharpen our Goats at a Philistines Forge, or weave the woollen Yearme of the Gentiles, with the linnen web of the Christians, I mean, call in the Testimony and practice of the Heathen, in what veneration, and esteeme they had their Idoll Temples (which was in them the dictate of Nature, mistaken onely in the object) and they would stand up as so many witneses, and certainly in the day of Judgement, shall condemne this Prophane Generation, who under an Hypocriticall pretence of worshipping God in Spirit, in a true Anabaptistick fury, have layd waste the Sanctuaries of God, polluted his Temples, and broken down all their carved worke with Axes and Hammers: And though these Rebellious Schismaticks have in all places (which have beene plagued with their presence) roared in the midst of our Congregations,*

## THE PREFACE.

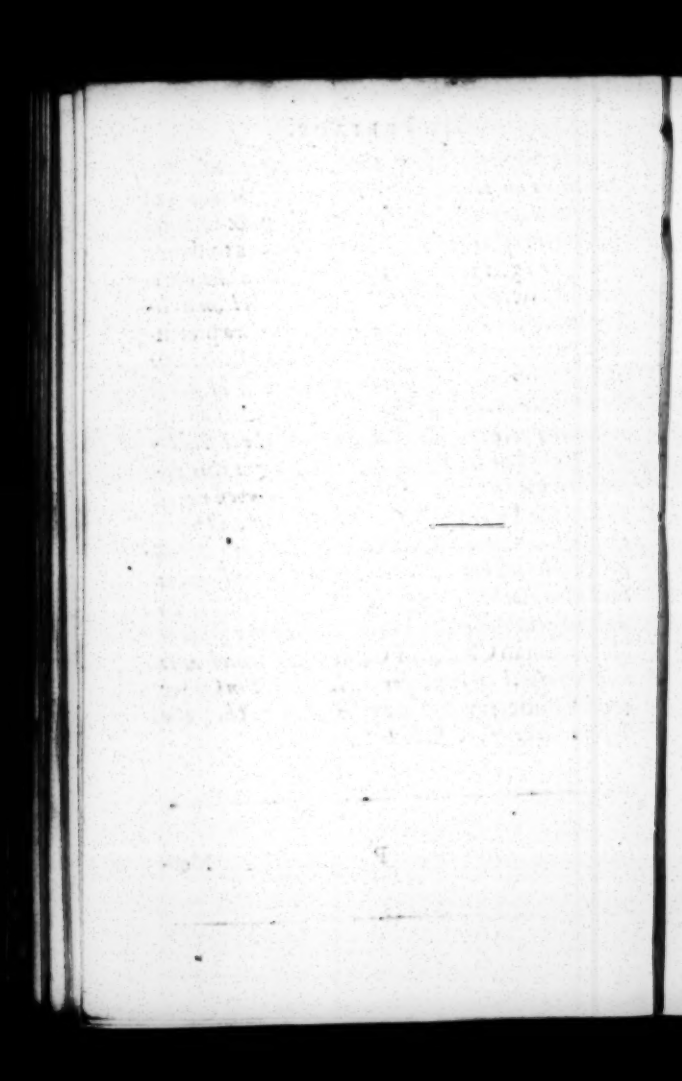
set up their Banners for tokens, and left some infamous memoriall of their frenzie, and haired of the beantie and magnificence of Gods houses; and therefore in every place made it their first businesse (as an introduction to the rest) to rob and deface Churches, and violate the Sepulchres and Monuments of the dead, so they have exprest their greatest haired against the Mother Churches, and Cathedrals of this Kingdom, because in them, the Primitive Order and decency, prescribed in the Rubrick of the Book of Common Prayer, and ratified by Act of Parliament, have beene best preserved from those Omissions, Neglects, and Contempts, which had almost banished them out of private Parochiall Congregations, and rendered them obnoxious to sinister interpretations, and suspected of no lesse then Popery, Superstition, and Innovation, in those places wherein they were retained, and practised: when therefore our Posteritie shall see this Abomination of desolation, which these Rebels have brought into these Temples of God, and by Tradition hear of those costly utencills, and Ornaments, which most Sacrilegiously they have carryed out, and shall with wonder, and astonishment inquire, what Lunacy? what Frenzy? what accursed madnesse possessed the hearts of the men of this present age, to lay wast the places where Gods honour dwels? where God vouchsafes to meet with his People, & the People, with united devoti-



## THE PREFACE.

on, to propitiate their God, and impiously (as much as in them is) to turne these Beauries of Holynes into desolate places, for Zuum & Ochim, (as the Prophet speakes) and the Satyrs to dance in, Esay 13. 12. Let them know, that the Puritans, Brownists, and Anabaptists. Rebels, marching under the banners of a Faction in two pretended Houses of Parliament (which yet some have the impudence to call the Great and Highest Court, the Supream Judicature, and the most zealous Protectors and Assertors of the Established Protestant Religion) have brought this desolation upon us. And because this Tempest raged first in the East, and so spread it selfe into all parts of the Kingdome, West, North, and South, I shall in the relation keepe the same Method (if so great confusion can be ranged into a Method) whereby we shall give (as is due) Precedency to the famous Metropolitan Church of Canterbury, which as it is (in respect of her lesser Sisters) first in Order and Dignitie, so was it then, and now shall be, the first instance of the Rebels Sacrilege.

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## Mercurius Rusticus, &amp;c.

## I.

*The Cathedrall Church of Canterbury horribly abused and defaced by the Rebels, under the conduct of Col. Sandys and Sir Michael Livesey: Together with the miserable end of the said Colonel at Worcester, &c.*

**T**He Citie of *Canterbury*, the ancient seat of the Kings of *Kent*; while the *Saxon Heptarchy* flourished in this Island, was by King *Ethelbert* given, together with the Royalty thereof to *Augustine*, the first consecrated Archbishop of the English Nation, who there fixed his seat for himself & his successors: for whose sake *Gregory* the great, then Bishop of *Rome*, translated the Metropolitan dignity, together with the honour of the *Pall*, from *London* to *Canterbury*: This City (as the rest) had its share in that spoyle and devastation, which War & the Sword, in the Innovations of Forraign nations & domestick broyls brought upon it: the greatest impressions of desolation made on it, were in the *Danish* Warres, but the *Normans* succeeding, through the pietie of godly religious men, residing there, and the bounty & liberality of the Bishops, it did suddenly start up, not only into its primitive beuty & lustre, but outstripped all other places, as in the number & sumptuousnesse of private houses, so especially in the magnificence and splendor of religious houses: amongst which, two were most famous, far exceeding all the rest, viz. *Christ-Church*, *Et hujus pertinacissimus amulus* (as Learned *Camden* speaks) the eager rivall of *Christ-Church*, *Saint Augustine*. This Church, by the injury of *Sacrilege* and

time, (two greedy devourers) lyes almost buried in its own Ruines, presenting nothing else to the eye of the beholder but a sad spectacle; how spacious & ample a structure it once was, when now, a piece of it hath the honour to be stiled (though seldom employ'd as) the *Kings House*. But *Christ-Church*, placed as it were in the Navel of the City, rayseth it self to so great a Majestie and Stateliness, that *Erasmus*, a man not too much taken with magnificence in this kind, I am sure not doting on it, sayes, that this doth present it self with so Majestick State, *Ut procul estiam inuentibus religionem inuitiat*, that it occasions that devotion which should be used there, and strikes a sensible impression of Religion, in their hearts that behold it, though a far off, and at a distance. This Church built in old time (as *Beda* sayes) by the faithfull and beleeving *Romans*, and by King *Etibelbert* given to *Augustine*, in processe of time needed the like pietie to susport it, as at first built it, & works of that nature in those dayes did not long lye neglected for want of Benefactors: *Laufrauke* therefore, the thirtie third Arch-Bishop of this *Sea*, (whether more famous for repairing of decayed Churches, as this of *Canterbury*, *Rocheſter*, and *S. Albans*, or his indefatigable pains, in correcting the corrupt translations of the *Holy Bible*, scattered every where through the Kingdom in his dayes, is uncertain,) *William Corbet*, or (as others will have it) *Corbois*, the thirtie sixth Arch-Bishop of the same *Sea*, reedified the Quire, and the upper part of this Church, and the pietie of succeeding Bishops built & joyned the Nave or body to the Quire, and brought it to this magnificence and Splendor in which wee now see it. But what our forefathers thought Religion to build up, we, their degenerate posterity, think Pietie to pull downe, so that while some leading Atheists (enemies to God and his Religion, and reprobate to every good work) are busie to Vote & cry down *Episcopacy*, with the *Sacred Hierarchy*, *Root & Branch*: their *Emissaries* encouraged and set on by them, first deface these Churches,

Churches, and in the next place, will utterly rase them; that so, the places where God is worshipped, being demolished, the revenue that maintaines the worship, may become a prey to these Sacrilegious Cormorants. But my God shall make them like a wheele. Now, how the Rebels behaved themselves in their first attempt, in this kind, on the Cathedrall Church of *Canterbury*, under the conduct of Colonel *Sandys*, I cannot better expresse then in the passionate elegancy of Reverend Doctor *Park*, one of the Prebends, and as that time Sub-deane of that Church, to the Earle of *Holland*, the most ingratefull, and most unthankfull of men.

My ever honoured Lord,

**D**id it not conduce unto the Publique, I should not presume to interrupt your Lordships weighty affaires; but the long experience of your Lordships zeale for Religion, and vigilancy for your University of *Cambridge*, hath assured me of your Lordships Patronage of our whole Church in generall, and (as the custome stands) of this Mother Church in particular; we expected Persecution had bene found much trouble from the Troopers sent amongst us; with what barbarous usage they have abused themselves at *Rocheſter*, and in other parts of this Countie. I leave to the Relation of others, and beg your Lordships patience, early to be informed what hath happened here with us; and wherein I am more nearly concerned; by mine Office in the absence of the Deane.

Colonel *Sandys* arriving here with his Troops, on Friday night, presently caused a *Drum* and *Drummers* to be set, both upon the Church, and upon our severall houses, to the great affliction of all the Inhabitants; this done, Sergeant Major *Cockaine* came to us, and in the name of the Parliament, demanded to see the Armes of the Church, and the Store Powder of the Chapter, which I presently shewed him; when he possessed himselfe of the Keyes,

and kept them in his owne custody: the next morning wee were excluded the Church, & might not be permitted to enter, for the performance of our Divine Exercises, but about eight of the clock, Sir Michael Livesey, attended with many Souldiers, came unto our Officers, and commanded them, to deliver up the keyes of the Church to one of their Company, which they did, and thereupon hee departed, when the Souldiers entering the Church and Quire, Giant-like, began a fight with God himselfe, overthrew the Communion-Table, tare the Velvet-Cloth from before it, defaced the goodly Sarcine, or Tabernacle-work, violated the Monuments of the dead, spoyled the Organs, brake downe the ancient Royles and Seats, with the brasse Eagle which did support the Bible, forced open the Cupboards of the Singing-men, rent some of their Surplices, Gownes, and Ribles, and carryed away others, mingled all our Service-Books, and Books of Common-Prayer; bestrewing the whole pavement with the leaves thereof: a miserable spectacle to all good eyes; but as if all this had bene too little, to satisfie the fury of some indiscreet Zealots; among them (for many did abhorre what was done already) they further exercised their malice upon the Armes hanging in the Quire, representing the whole Story of our Saviour, wherein observing divers figures of Christ, (I tremble to expresse their blasphemies) One said, That here is Christ, and swore that he would stab him: Another said, here is Christ, and swore that he would rip up his bowells: which they did accordingly, so farre as the figures were capable thereof, before many other villanies: And not content therewith, finding another statue of Christ in the Franciscians of the South-Gate, they discharged a gaunt against it so fast that at the least, tripping much, when they did hit it in the head or face, as if they were resolved to crucifie him againe in his Figure, whom they could not hurt in truth: nor had their fury beene thus stopped, threatening the ruine of the whole Fabrick, had not the Col-

Colonel, with some others, come to the reliefe and rescue: the Tumults appeased, they presently departed for Dover, from whence we expect them this day; and are much afraid, that as they have already visited our persons, and offered extreame indignities to one of our Brethren, so they will Plunder our houses at their returne, unlesse the care of the Major, the Colonel, and some Members of the House of Commons (Sir Edward Masters, and Captaine Nut, now with us, who have promised to present their knowledge to that Honourable House) doe prevent the same.

Your Lordship will be pleased to pardon my hastic expressions, which proceed from a grieved heart, and I am confident the honourable Houses of Parliament, being rightly informed herein, will proceed against the like abuses, and impieties in oth'r places, in the meane time we submit with patience to the providence of him, who can, and will bring good out of evill, which is the earnest prayer of

Christ-Church, Cant.

Aug. 30. 1643.

Your Lorships most  
obliged Servant

Thomas Paske.

What effect this just complaint wrought, how it prevailed, either with that Lord to whom it was addressed, or with the pretended Houses of Parliament, whose authority and assistance was implored to prevent further outrage, either here or elsewhere, wee have too cleare testimony, not only in the like sacrileges and prophanations, every day acted, without any the least check, or restraint from the heads of this Rebellion, but more especially from their Votes and Ordinances, for the abolishing all remainders of Popery and Superstition, as they call it: in all which, *Intelligi malunt quam Audiri*, they would have their creatures understand, more then they speake, being certaine politique Litotes, in which, *Minus dicitur, plus intelligitur*, signi-

signifying more then the Grammaticall construction will permit, and carry in them a hidden secret sense and meaning, which their owne *Emissaries* know how to interpret and inlarge, according to the full *intention* of the Authors. But before we passe from the relation of this horrid Sacrilege, committed on the Church of *Canterbury*, I could not free my selfe from being guiltie of that great sinne of obscuring the great manifestation of *Gods Justice*, if I should in silence passe over that most exemplary vengeance, which persued to death that unfortunate Gentleman Colonel *Sandys*, the ring-leader to that Rebellious rout, which were Actors in that more then Barbarous out-rage.

Whether the cunning perswasions of others, or his own ambition first imbarcked him in this fatall undertaking is uncertaine, but as himselfe confessed on his death bed, to a friend & kinsman of his, who asked him, what he meant, being a Gentleman of so faire an estate, to ingage himselfe in this Treason? He answered, *That he was so farre drawn in before he was aware, that he knew not how to come off without the danger of his head*: So usuall it is, for one sinne to ingage the sinner for a second: having therefore once lifted up his hand against his Sovereigne, the Lords *Anoynted*, he thought the way to be secure from the punishment of *Rebellion*, was to persevere in his Crime, and go on in *Rebellion*: In pursuance therefore of so black designs, being Colonel of a Regiment of Horse, in *Sept. 1642.* with the rest of the Rebels Army under the Conduct of the Earle of *Essex*, he advanced towards *Worcester*, and making some excursions with tenne Troopes of Horse from the body of their Army, at *Wichefield* neare *Worcester*, accidentally were met by Prince *Rupert*, accompanied by Prince *Maurice* and some others, Lords and Gentlemen of his Majesties *Cavalkry*: being thus by chance met, the Prince glad of any opportunitie, to expresse the bravenes of his resolution, charged the Rebels with incomparable



parable valour : In this short but fierce Conflict, Colonel *Sandys* was wounded, and being dismounted his Horse, became prisoner to the Kings Partee. Being thus wounded, and as then was conceived, mortally, he began to reflect upon himselfe, and finding so little warrant in his now unbiased conscience for his undertaking, which had brought him into this condition, his perplexed soule brake out into many sad expressions of remorse : crying out, *Woe, woe, to evill Counsell, and happy are they that doe not take it.* And being put in mind by a Reverend Doctor in Divinity, and Chaplaine to Prince *Rupert*, of the haynousenelle of the sin of Rebellion, he acknowledged himselfe to have fallen into that sinne, and that God was just in his Judgements for finding him out in *his iniquitie*, professing withall his heartie sorrow and repentance for it : whereupon the Doctor replied, that if he recovered, perhaps the same persuasions from others, or inconsideratenesse in himselfe, might again ingage him in this Rebellion, at which words, a little lifting up his hand, he professed, *He would rather have it cut off, then ever again lift it up against the King:* he freely acknowledged the justice of the Kings cause, and that he had observed the blessings of God to accomany it, and when the Doctor desired leave to testifie his repentance to the world, he freely gave him leave, asking God and the King forgiveness, praying for a blessing upon him, and his proceedings. In this mind he continued while Prince *Rupert* and the Kings Forces with him stayd in *Worcester*: and whether after the Earles possessing himselfe of *Worcester*, by the impetuous solicitations of those Murderers of Soules, those Factors for hell, their Schismatical Lecturers, (who make men twice so'd more the children of the devill then themselves) he fell off, and turned Apostate from his newly resolved Loyalty, as repenting of his repentance, is uncertain ; Those that were about him & saw his weaknesse, ever declining from the first houre he received his wounds, must testify to the World that he had neither  
 strength

strength of hand to write, nor so much composednesse of spirit, to be the Author of that Spurious, Supposititious *Vindication*, Published in his name *Oct. 11. 1642.* he being (whatsoever that forgery pretends) as unable to vindicate himself with his pen, as his sword; but if they had his *heart* as well as *hand*, subscribing to that Atheisticall resolution, where they thus bring him in foaming out his own shame, *The Apprehension of death never hitherto so neerly touched me, but if God shall once restore me to my former strength, I shall by his helpe, with as much alacritie and I hope courage, endeavour to defend, and maintaine with my dearest blood, this so good a cause* (meaning this present Rebellion) *as ever I was at first ingaged in it.* If I say they had his *heart* as well as his *hand* to that Resolution, I am afraid it was too evident a Symptome of a wicked man, given up to a *Reprobate sense*, which of all spirituall judgements questionlesse is the greatest; and might justly call for those *Torments of body*, which afterward, as a Gangreen devoured and ate up his flesh, and those *pangs of conscience*, which I am afraid were but the earnest of a worse condition to insue: for as the Psalmist sayes, *As for such as turne back unto their owne wickednesse, the Lord shall lead them forth with the workers of iniquitie,* Psal. 125. 5. but I remember that of Saint Paul, *Judge nothing before the time, untill the Lord come,* 1 Cor. 4. 5. And therefore while on Supposition I write my seares, positively I determine nothing, not knowing, whether God might not give him the grace of repentance at the last, which if he did, he onely (I dare say) that gave the *Grace*, knew of it: concerning his eternall condition therefore, I shall leave him to the judgement of that Righteous God, that judgeth Righteous judgement, and *gives to every man according to his workes*: and onely informe the World in what condition the Colonel lay, untill the time of his dissolution, and putting off his earthly, but loathsome Tabernacle.

As the Colonel was amongst the Rebels a very considerable man, both for his extraction and qualitie, and likewise for his Estate (to say nothing of his valour and resolution, had they been Loyally employed) so it was among their chiefeft cares to recover him of thoe wounds which he received in their unchristian quarrell: while therefore the Rebels army lay in *Worcester* (which was about three weeks) though then upon more strict searching his wounds, in the opinion of the best Chirurgions they were not mortall, yet, whatsoever the Art & invention, either of the Physitian or Chirurgion, could contribute to his recovery, was not omitted: when the Rebels army drew out to meet the King, in their march from *Shrewsbury*, which they did to their cost at *Edge-hill*, the Colonel was committed to the care of his own Chirurgion, then in pay under him, *John Anthony* of *London*: to whom, as a witness and an assistant in the cure, was joynd a Chirurgion of the Citie of *Worcester*, *Edward Marshall*: who, though they both used all the art & industry that possibly they could to effect the cure, yet the difficulties every day multiplied against the means, and in despite of their Balmes, his wounds did putrefie & the flesh rot, to the wonder of the *Artists*, and the *Scorne* of their *Art*: In so much that the Chirurgions, after much varietie of means used, & much struggling with these growing evils (the cure still going backward, as if their skil had bin employed to widen those wounds which they pretended to close up) were heard by many of the Citie of *Worcester*, to confesse, what *Hippocrates* saies, every Physitian should first look after in every cure, that there was, *Dei, i. the hand of God in it*, that it was a peculiar judgment upon him, & that the cause of this putrefaction was *more then natural*: nor were they without good grounds for this conjecture, for besides the conclusions of their own Art, directly thwarted, experience on the severall parts of the body of their patient, was a clear demonstration: those wounds in the upper parts of his body  
neare

neare the vitalls, and therefore more dangerous, were cured long before his death, but those in his thigh, which were flesh-wounds, as they call them, These were the *Opprobria Chirurgorum*, here the flesh did dayly rot and putrifie, and was cut away by degrees, even to the leaving of the bones naked, and stunk in so loathsome a manner, that as he was a burthen to himselfe, so to his friends too, and those that were about him, being hardly able, for the noy-somenesse of the sinell, either to come neare him to doe the offices of necessary attendance, or so much as to endure the roome where he lay, so into'erable was the stench, and so offensive.

Nor were the wounds of his *body* more insufferable to his friends, then the wounds of his *conscience* to himselfe, the guilt of Rebellion wrought in him strong convulsions of Soule, high distempers of mind, yet that he might not sinke under the burthen of his *wounded spirit*, a weight that requires more then man to support it, he sent for Master *Cotterell*, an Orthodox godly Minister, and Parson of Saint *Andrews* in *Worcester*, to *Administer a word of comfort* unto him in this his afflicted condikion.

When Master *Cotterell* came unto him, he found *Obadiab Sedgwick*, that scandalous seditious Minister of *Essex*, in private conference with the Colonel, and Bread and Wine, ready prepared for the *Lords Supper*: *Sedgwick* having ended his discourse, went to Prayers, whereupon Master *Cotterell* offering to withdraw, he was intreated by one of the Colonels servants to stay, which accordingly he did: *Sedgwick* having concluded his extemporary prayer, took his leave and departed, refusing to stay either to administer the Sacrament to the Colonel, or to communicate with him: of which refusall, when Master *Cotterell* afterward desired to know the reason, all the satisfaction that was given him, was, That *Sedgwick* was not fully assured of the fitnessse & due preparation of those that were to receive the Sacrament with him. Desperate Hypocrisis! what-soever

soever he was perswaded of the preparation of the other Communicants, 'tis most certaine, he could not be ignorant of the unfitness of the Colonel himselfe, whom he himselfe in all probabilitie perswaded to returne *with the dogge to his vomit*, and to justify himselfe in *that sinne* of which but very lately he seemed to repent: 'tis more probable, that, that poore remainder of Conscience in *Sedgwick*, not quite yet *put away*, though it suffered him to betray, in private, a dying man to impenitency, under fained pretences of what he in his own soule must need confesse to be a crying sin, and inrowled by Saint Paul himself amongst those *workes of the flesh*, which doe exclude from the *Kingdome of Heaven*: yet his heart might smite him, and his conscience withstand him, as it were to the face, that he durst not seal *that destrullive counsell* by delivery of the Sacrament: *Sedgwick* being gone, the Colonel willingly entertained conference with Master *Cotterell*, to whom he made a generall confession of his sins, and the grievousnesse of them, professing his heartie repentance and sorrow for them. But as the two pretended Houses of Parliament, in their Catalogue of sinnes, reckoned up in their Homily (if without offence I may so call it) and offered to this Nation as the subject matter of their *solemnre humiliation*, quite forgot *Lying* and *Rebellion*, for some reasons best knowne to themselves: so this Champion of theirs, in his generall Confession, made no mention of the sin of *Rebellion*, which most nearly concern'd him, and for which in all probabilitie he was very suddenly to render an account to God: a Confession most necessary both for him to *make*, and the Minister to *require*, before he could be thought a fit receiver of those *dreadfull mysteries*; but after this generall Confession, having received the Sacrament, Master *Cotterell* commended him to the grace of God, for that time left him; and having by one or two visits, after that, as he thought gained some interest in the Colonel, comming againe to him, and finding him in a calmer temper,

per, and judging it a fit opportunitie to inquire into his Conscience, and sound him what perswasion he now had of his taking up Armes against his Sovereigne, he desired the Colonel to command his servants out of the roome, that he might speake with him in private, which being done, and all witness removed, but God, and their own Consciences, Master *Cotterell*, prefacing his discourse, with a solemne Protestation, that in what he did, he proposed no other end, but the salvation of his soule, demanded of him, whether he were not sorry for drawing his sword against the King? And whether he were not perswaded in his Conscience of the unlawfulness of it? To which the Colonel replied, That he was perswaded; that it was lawfull, having taken up Armes not against the King, but for the King, for his good; to bring him back to his Parliament, to make him more glorious then any of his Predecessors, and to redeem him from his evill Counsellors, and those Popish Malignants that were about him. To which old thredbare pretences (invented to palliate Treason, and blanch their most grosse Rebellion) when Master *Cotterell* opposed the Lawes of God, the Lawes of the Kingdome, and seconded both, by the Kings most cleare and satisfactory Declaration, able to undeceive the abused world, and dispell that mist of error and prejudice, which the heads of this deluded Nation: the Colonel not able to return any reasonable answer, or pre-instructed by *edgwick*, who foresaw what encounter he was like to meet withall, suddenly called aloud to his servants to come in, whose presence set an end to the Conference: after this, Master *Cotterell*, (some say, by Doctor *Bruc*: his Physicians advice, though I doe not absolutely affirm it) was wholly neglected, & Master *Halfeter* was sent for, Parson indeed of Saint *Nicholas* in *Worcester*, but more acceptable to those that gave this counsell, under another capacitie, as hee was the *City Lecturer*.

But

But before we acquaint you with what successe *Halfetor* undertooke, and discharged this imployment, it will not be amiss to let the world know, what reward this dying Colonel intended to bestow on Master *Cotterell* for all his paines taken with him, when the Colonels Wife came to *Worcester* to visite her husband, and being informed by her servants how frequently Master *Cotterell* had visited her husband, what paines he had taken in administering the Sacrament, and his great care in praying and conferring with him: she very nobly pressed her husband to gratifie Master *Cotterell* by some honorary gift, as an acknowledgment of his thankfulnesse, that he might reape some of his *Temporalls*, to whom he had so plentifully sowed *spirituall things*: to so reasonable a motion, made by the wife of his bosome, the Colonel most unworthily, and most uncharitably replied, *Sweet-heart be content, we shall find him a Delinquent*: but he that shall reward a cup of cold water, shall not forget so great a work of *Charitie* that endeavours to turne a sinner to righteousness (though the successe answer neither his labour, nor expectation) yet he shall shine as the Stars for ever and ever, nor shall his worke be in vaine in the Lord.

Master *Cotterell* being thus most unthankfully rejected, the Colonel is now committed wholly to the care of his new ghostly Father Master *Halfetor*, a man of a Schismaticall Turbulent spirit, fitter to make a Rebbe than reclame a relapsed Traytor, and since hath followed that counsel which he gave by deserting his Cure and joyning himself to the Rebels: the men of this Faction have an Art to torment perplex consciences instead of comforting them, dispensing not so much the *promises of the Gospel*, as the *terrors of the Law*, as if the way to spirituall Consolation were through despair, and noway led to *Heaven* so sure, as what coasted by the confines of *Hell*; whether Master *Halfetor* dealt thus with the Colonel, I cannot say, perhaps he might go about as some others of his Faction have done,

to squ pillows under their seduced champions arme-holes, and to justifie the sinner in the sinne, comparing circumstances, questionlesse this was his way, but the sad effects of his Rebellion which the Colonel felt in his body, and those flashes of horror affrighting his guiltie soule, would not permit this dying man to be lulled asleepe in so vaine presumption: though at first therefore when Master *Cotterell* was with him, to assist him in that great work, to prepare him to stand before the judgement Seat of Christ, and the preparatories were Confessions and Sorrow for sinnes, (though but in the generall) deprecations of judgement, and the wrath of God, and the like, some spirituall comfort, began to dawne in his be-nighted soule, and that he might seale that oblcure glimmering of hope opened unto him in this *valley of Achor*, and obtaine more, he desired to *Communicate in the body and blood of Christ*, yet after Master *Halfetor* came unto him, (*Woe, woe to evill Counsell*, to use his owne exclamation) it was observed that the Colonel fell into strong distempers of mind. which suddenly grew to so great a height, that he was utterly distracted, even to raving and madnesse: which amongst them that thinke the Gospel ineffectuall, unlesse the *spirituall man be mad*, is taken for the undoubted evidence of a *Powerfull Ministry*: certainly it was a sad spectacle, to see him lye in this condition, and a horrid thing to heare, that his last breath, which should have beene breathed out in prayers and deprecations, and humble Confessions of sin, should be spent in venting the wild fancies of his distracted brain: sometimes crying out, that *his Chirurgion and servants had broken up his Trunkes, and rob'd him of his gold*: and by and by starting up, and crying out, that *the Enemy was at the walls of the Citie, and calling for the keys to lock up the gates*: Thus he lay diverse weekes, and in these distractions dyed; dreadfull things are these, but 'tis written, *The Lord shall smite thee with madnesse, and blindness, and astonishment of heart*. His Wife and Sonne



comming to visit him in this wretched condition (poysoned with the stench of his body) both fell sick of the small Pox, of which she dyed, and both of them lye buried in the South Ile of the body of the *Cathedrall*, in *that Cathedrall of Worcester*, where his Grandfather Doctor *Edwyne Sandys*, afterwards *Arch-bishop* of *Tork*, made his first step to the *Archi-Episcopall* honour, being first Consecrated Bishop of that *Diocesse*, & there layd the foundation of those fortunes, which descending to this man, made him forget his own extraction; & certainly it was no small aggravation of his sin, that being descended from an *Arch-bishop*, and that estate which made him considerable in the world, being raysed out of the Revenues of the *Church*, and a *Cathedrall Church* (a blessing which but few Church-men have attained unto, though advanced to the same, or the like dignity to raise a family) he should yet so far degenerate, so far forget himselfe, & the *Rock from whence he was hewn*, to be a Ring-leader to so Barbarous a Rout, which beginning at *Canterbury*, went on to ruine and desage all Cathedrall Churches where they came, ending with that of *Worcester*, where he had the undeserved Priviledge to be interr'd.

Thus as briefly as I could, I have given an account of the unhappy end of this miserable Gentleman. In which, I call God to witness, there is nothing fained, nothing suborned, there being nothing here recorded, but what is attested by men beyond all exception. And I must appeale againe to the same God, that this account is not given to that end to make his name or memory odious, either with the men of this present age, or with posteritie (I must confesse I would disgrace the sin) but my intent is, by this example, to teach those that are seduced as this man was, to know, and foresee in him, what end attends those, who forgetting all *Religion* and *Loyalty*, shall lift up their hands against their God in *Sacrilege*, and against their *Soveraign* in *Rebellion*.

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## Mercurius Rusticus, &c.

### II.

*The Cathedrall Church of Rochester violated: the Sacrilege and prophaneſſe of the Rebels under command of Sir William Waller and Sir Arthur Haſſerig, acted on the Cathedrall Church of Chicheſter, &c.*

**A**S when the Spirit brought the Prophet *Ezekiel* into the Holy Temple, he led him from place to place, and each place entertained him with greater *Abominations* than the former, so that the farewell to the last Vision, and the invitation to the next is, *Turne thee yet againe and thou shalt see greater Abominations than these*: So, having brought you in the *Cathedralls* of this Kingdom, *Temples* (in despite of Atheists, Rebels and Anabaptists) of God too: and having shewed you the *Abomination of Desolation* in one of them, viz. in *Canterbury*, the first instance of their accursed rage, and having viewed that, I must now lead you on as the Spirit did the Prophet, from place to place, and the inticement may be the same, for though you have seene great prophanations in the former relation, *Yet you shall see greater abominations than these.*

The next instance of the Rebels prophaneſſe, which I shall offer unto you, is in the *Cathedrall* of *Rochester*,

ber, recompenced for the finallesse of its *Revenne*, with the honour of its *Antiquitie*, as boasting of *Æthelbert* King of *Kent*, a common Founder to this Church, with those of *Canterbury* and *London*. The unhappy losse of *Earnulphus* History, the thirtieth second Bishop of this See, deprives us of that Light which discovered the various condition of this Church, how long in the beginning it struggled with its owne poverue, and in after-ages with the injuries of Time and Warre, remaining some yeares in a kind of Widow hood, without the Government and Super-intendency of a Bishop; till at last *Gundulfus* the thirtieth Bishop of this See, re-edified this Church from the ground, and brought it into that magnificence in which we now see it: To which pious worke, hee brought so good, so vigorous affections, that as *Malmesbury* records of him, *Præveniat vivacitas Gundulphi omnium successorum diligentiam*, *Gundolphus* glaucity in that work did so prevent the pietie of his successors, that he hardly left them any place in this kind wherein to exercise their bountie. Little did the overflowing zeal of our Ancestors to the house of God, like that of the old *Israelites*, pouring out their wealth and precious things to adorne the *Tabernacle*, in so great measure, that *Moses* was fain to publish a Proclamation to restraints their liberalitie, *For the stuffe they had was sufficient for the work to make it, and too much*, *Exod. 36.6.7*. Little (I say) did they thinke, when they did this, that what they thus bountifully gave unto God, should ever, while this Kingdome remained Christian, become a prey to those, which as *Tertullian* speakes, *Genes agunt Christi nomine*, have not so much as a forme, but the bare usurped name of Christianity, which they sulley and pollute with those worse than heathenish crimes of *Sacrilege* and *Prophanesne*: had the *Sacrilege* lately committed at *Canterbury* been applauded by the people, (to gain whom, no arts though never so re-

pugnāt either to Religion or common honesty were leſt un-  
 attended) certainly, this Church which next ſtood in their  
 way, and immediatly after *Canterbury* taſted of their fury,  
 had beene utterly demolished, and offered up a ſacrifice  
 to Popularity. But *Plundering* being then but a ſtranger  
 in *England*, newly arriv'd here from deſolate *Germany*,  
 eſpecially *Plundering of Churches*, which heretofore were  
 held inviolable *Sanctuaries* for offenders, but much more  
 for their owne innocent ornaments; this made a generall  
 outcry, every man deteſted ſo ſoule impictie; nay, their  
 own partie (ſome of them) not yet ſo deeply leavened with  
 their *Anabaptiſticall* Doctrines, nor given up to ſo reprobate  
 a ſenſe to believe monſtrous lyes for truth, did not  
 only not approve, but ſparingly condemne the Fact: and  
 the generall vote of the people, awakened by Doctor *Park*  
 his Letter, declared it barbarous and wicked; nay, the diſ-  
 like of ſuch proceedings grew to ſo great a height, that  
 ſome wiſe men were deceived into an opinion, that the  
 Houſes would puniſh the offenders for the preſent, and  
 publiſh an Order to reſtrain the like outrages for the fu-  
 ture: & indeed, though ſome good men, Members of both  
 Houſes, did earneſtly deſire it, yet by experience they  
 quickly found how unequal they were to effect any thing,  
 in which they had not the concurrence of the heads of the  
 Faction which ruled in both Houſes, but much leſſe when  
 they rowed againſt the ſtream, & had them for their adver-  
 ſaries. The Rebels therefore coming to *Rocheſter*, brought  
 the ſame affections along with them which they expreſſed  
 at *Canterbury*, but in wiſdome thought it not late to give  
 them the ſame ſcope, here as there; for the multitude  
 though mad enough, yet were not ſo mad, nor ſtood yet ſo  
 prepar'd to approve ſuch heatheniſh practices; by this  
 means the Monuments of the dead, which elſewhere they  
 brake up and violated, ſtood untouched: Eſcoucheons and  
 Armes of the Nobilitie and Gentry (upbraiding eye-ſores  
 to broken, mean Citizens, and vulgar Rebels) remained  
 undefa-

undefaced, the Seats & Stalls of the Quire escaped breaking downe, onely those things which were wont to fluffe up *Parliament Petitions*, and were branded by the Leaders of the Faction, for *Papery* and *Innovation*, in these they took libertie to let loole their wild zeale: they brake down the Rayl about the *Lords Table*, or *Altar*, call it which you please; and not only so, but most basely reviled a now Reverend Prelate, who being lately Deane of that Church, had for the more uniforme, and reverend receiving of the blessed Sacrament set it up, with the odious name of *Rogue*, often repeated: they seized upon the Velvet covering of the holy Table; and in contempt of those holy Mysteries which were Celebrated on the Table, removed the Table it selfe into a lower place of the Church, in this, perfect disciples of that prophane Author of the book called, *Altare Damascenum*, who in the 718 p. devoutly resolves thus: *De loco ubi consistat cur solliciti: cum quovis loco vel Angulo extra Tempus Administrationis collocari possit; Concerning the place where the Lords Table shall stand, what need we to be solicitous, when out of the time of administration of the Sacrament it may be set aside, in any place, or obscure corner.* And to shew what Members they are of the Church of *England*, they strowed the Pavement with the torn mangled leaves of the Book of Common-Prayer, which, with the Book of Homilies, and the 39 Articles, makes up the third Book, wherein the Doctrine of the Church of *England* is fully contained: understanding that the Deane that then was, was to Preach on Sunday morning, Colonel *Sandys* and Sir *John Seaton*, that false Trayterous Scow, sent unto him to command him to forbear the wearing of the Surplice and Hood: to which message the Deane stoutly; and like himselfe, returned this answer, That if they would expect any Sermon from him, they must permit him to appeare in such Ornaments, as the Church, and his degree required: and accordingly did so: afterwards *Sandys* and *Seaton*, com-

ming towards the Church, and hearing the Organs, *Seaton* started back, and in the usuall blessing of some of his Country, cryed, *A Devil on these Bag-pipes*: perhaps he never read so farre as *David's Psalmes*, where it is written, *Praise God upon the Strings and Pipe*: *Psalm. 150. 4.* or if he had, it is more then probable, that it had beene all one to him: however, this served them both, as a pretence to cloake their Irreligion, and refusall to joyne with that true Protestant Congregation. While the Rebels were pulling downe the Rayles about the Communion-Table, one of the Prebends of the Church, *Master Larken*, interposed, and attempted to stay their madnesse by reason, and perswasion: But he quickly found, that he did not onely prophane Reason, by urging it to *Saint Pauls*, *absurd, unreasonable, wicked men*, men made up of *incongruities*, but that he did it to the hazard of his life; for one of the Rebels, instead of returning a reasonable answer, discharged a Pistoll or Carbine at him, to have murdered him at the very Altar, but by the good providence of God he mist his marke: Thus, having done some spoyle, that they might render themselves not altogether unprofitable to their partie, and not daring for the present to doe any more, for feare of losing that party which they hoped to gaine for that season, they left the Church: but into what further outrageous Impieties, their Schismaticall fury hath since transported them, or what else they have practised on this Church, to compleat their *Monstrous Reformation*, is not yet made knowne unto us.

The third Instance, which I shall give of the Rebels Sacrilege and Prophanenesse, is in the *Cathedrall Church of Chichester*; Successor in the honour of being the seat of the Bishops Residence to *Sealsey*: for *Wilfrid* Arch-Bishop of *Turke*, being driven into Exile by *Agfrid* King of *Northumberland*, retling himselfe into *Sussex*, and finding the *South Saxons* wholly given up to Idolatry,

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his spirit like Saint Pauls at Athens, was stirred with him, and knowing the unprofitable servants doome, that buried his Talent, he Preached unto them the Gospel of Christ: and *Edelwath* King of those parts (not long before converted to the Faith, by the perswasions of *Wolfbere* King of the *Mercians*) willing that the same saving-knowledge, which he himselfe had imbraced, should be imparted to his people, seconded the pious endeavours of *Wilfrid*, and therefore amongst other acts of bountie, he gave the Arch bishop *Sealsey* for the place of his residence. Not long after, *Cedwalla* Conquering *Edilwath*, built here a Monastery to the honour (as *Malmesbury* sayes) of S. *Peter*, and erected the Episcopall Chaire: where it stood fixt the succession of 22 Bishop, or as others say (reckoning *Wilfrid* Arch-bishop of *Yorke* for the first) the succession of 23 Bishops; from the yeare 711. to the raigne of *William the Conquerour* 1070. at which time *Stiganeus* translated his Chaire from *Sealsey* to *Chichester*, and so became the last Bishop of *Sealsey*, and the first of *Chichester*, where the Episcopall power did flourish ever since, untill now; in these last, and worst dayes, wherein while the heads of a Rebellious, Schismaticall Faction, Vote down the Sacred Function and Order of Bishops, their Emisseries are mad to deface, if not utterly to demolish their Churches. To this purpose, the Rebels under the Conduet of Sir *William Waller*, entring the Citie of *Chichester* on *Innocents* day, 1642. the next day, their first businesse was to Plunder the Cathedrall Church; the Marshall therefore and some other Officers, having entred the Church, went into the Vestry, there they seize upon the Vestments and Ornaments of the Church, together with the Consecrated Plate, serving for the Altar & Administration of the Lords Supper: they left not so much as a Cushion for the Pulpit, nor a Chalice for the Blessed Sacrament: the Commanders having in person executed the covetous part of Sacrilege, they leave the destructive & spoiling part to be finished by the Com-

mon Souldiers: brake downe the Organs, and dashing the Pipes with their Pole-axes, scoffingly said, *Harke how the Organs goe.* They breake the Rayle about the Communion Table, which was done with that fury, that the Table it selfe escaped not their madnesse, but tasted of the same fare with the Rayl, and was broken in pieces by them. At the East end of the Quire, did hang a very fair Table, wherein were written the Ten Commandements, with the Pictures of *Moses* and *Aaron* on each side of the Table; possessed with a zeale, but not like that of *Moses*, they pull downe the Table, and breake it into small shivers. 'Twas no wonder that they should break the Commandements in their representation, that had before broken them all over in their Substance and Sanction: they force open all the locks, either of doores or desks wherein the Singing-men layd up their Common-Prayer Books, their Singing-Books, their Gowns and Surplices: they rent the Books in pieces, and scatter the torne leaves all over the Church, even to the covering of the Pavement, but against the Gownes and Surplices their anger was not so hot, these were not amongst the *Anathemata*, but might be reserved to secular use: in the South crosse Ile on the one side, the History of the Churches Foundation, was very artificially pourtrayed with the Pictures of the Kings of England; on the other side over against them, are the Pictures of the Bishops, as well of *Sealsby's Chichester*, began by *Robert Sherborn*, the 37 Bishop of that See, and the Series brought down by him to his own times at his own Charges, who as he made that of the Psalmist, *Dilexi decorum domus tui domine*, Lord I have loved the beautie of thy house, his Impresse and Motto, so he made it his worke, and endeavour. These Monuments they deface and mangle with their hands and swords, as high as they could reach: and to shew their love and Zeale to the *Protestant Religion*, established in the Church of England, one of those Milcreants picked out the eyes of King *Edward the sixth's* Picture saying,



saying, *That all this mischief came from him when he established the Booke of Common-Prayer.* On the Tuesday following they had a solemne Thanksgiving, for their successe in gaining that Citie. Men of *Cauterized Consciences*, and given up to a *Reprobate sense*, thus, not onely to take the Name of God in vaine, but damnably to Blaspheeme it, as if he were the Patron of Rapine, Blood and Sacrilege. After the Sermon was ended, as men not inspired by the holy Spirit, of which they so much boast, but possessed and transported by a *Bacchanalian* fury, they ran up and downe the Church, with their swords drawne, defacing the Monuments of the dead, hacking and hewing the Seats and Stalls, scratching and scraping the painted walls: Sir *William Waller*, and the rest of the Commanders standing by as Spectators, and approvers of these Barbarous Impieties: yet for feare lest in this Schismaticall frenzy, the sword in mad mens hands might mistake, Sir *William Waller*, a wary man as he is, and well knowne not to be too apt to expose himselfe to danger, stood all the while with his sword drawn, and being asked by one of his Troopers what he meant to stand in that Posture? He answered, *That it was to secure himselfe.* you know, 'tis written, *The wicked are afraid where no feare is*, for though the people made him an Idoll in London, yet being no Popish, but a Puritanicall Idoll, (for they have their Idolls, and their Idolatry, as much as the Church of Rome) there was no danger to his person, to be mistaken for an object of their Reformation at Chichester. The same Trooper added also, *That if his Colonel in the Low-Countries were there, and commanded in chiefe, he would hang up halfe a dozen of the souldiers for examples sake: it not being the custome of the Low-Countries, (though long time hath made their enmitie inveterate, and added much to the animositie of the parties) to Plunder Churches, it being a mutual stipulation between the Spaniard and the Hollander, that what Town soever should by conquest passe from the possession*

possession of one Nation to the other, though the Conquerour had the free Plunder of the Towne, yet Churches with their Ornaments, and whatever was conveyed into them should be inviolable, the Church being Sanctuary to whatsoever was under its Roofe, and, if they would have any thing thence, it was to be purchased at a valuable price. These good intimations of moderation from a man of lesse Command, but more Religion then Sir William, prevailed nothing with him to restrain the outrageous madnesse of his fellow Rebels. Having therefore made what spoyle they could in the Cathedrall, they rush out thence and breake open a Parish Church, standing on the North side of the Cathedrall, called the *Subdeanery*: there they teare the Common Prayer Bookes, both those belonging to the Church, and likewise those which were left there by devote persons which did usually frequent Divine Service; and because many things in the *Holy Bible* make strongly against them. one did contradict and condemne their impious practices, they marked it in divers places with a black coale; 'tis more then probable, that the 13 Chapter to the *Romans* did not escape their *Index Expurgatorius*, for certainly it that be the word of God (as undoubtedly it is) they cannot so farre *with-hold the truth in unrighteousnesse*, as not to read their doome in that word, they shall judge them at the last day: here they stole the Ministers Surplice and Hood, and all the Linnen serving for the Communion: and finding no more Plate but the *Chalice*, they steale that too, which they brake in pieces, to make a just and equall dividend amongst themselves; for an *Exgeener* of theirs, *Robert Prince* a French-man, with a wooden leg, afterwards shewed the foot thereof broken off; and when complaint was made of these barbarous outrages, Captain Keely replied, *This he knew not whether all this were not done by Order, or no.* About five or six days after, Sir *Arthur Hasterig* demanded the Keyes of the *Chapler-house*, being entred the place, and having intelligence  
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by a treacherous Officer of the Church, where the remainder of the Church Plate was, he commanded his servants to breake downe the Wainscot round about the roome, which was quickly done; they having brought Crowes of Iron for that purpose along with them; while they were knocking downe the Wainscot, Sir *Arthurs* tongue was not enough to expresse his joy, it was operative at his very heeles, for dancing and skipping, (pray marke what Musick that is, to which, it is lawfull for a Puritan to dance) he cryed out, *There Boyes, there Boyes, Hearke, Hearke, its Rattles, its Rattles*: and being much importuned by some members of that Church, to leave the Church but a Cup for administration of the Blessed Sacrament, answer was returned by a Scotch-man standing by, *That they should take a wooden dish*: and now tell me which was farthest from a Christian, either this impure Scot, or that blasphemous Atheist, who seeing the massy Plate and rich Ornaments wherewith the Christian Altars were adorned in the Primitive Church, in indignation & scorn of Christ belched out *Ex quâ preciosis vasis filium Maria ministratur?* Behold with what costly vessels the Son of *Mary* is served: what further spoyle and indignitie they have since done to that house of God, *And the habitation where his honour dwelt*, is yet uncertaine.

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## Mercurius Rustius, &c.

### III.

*The Rebels defying God in his owne house : their Sacrilege, in stealing Church-Plate and goods : their irreverence towards the King, by abusing his Statue : their heathenish barbaritie in violating the bones and ashes of dead Monarchs, Bishops, Saints and Confessors in the Cathedrall Church of Winchester, &c.*

**T**He next instance which I shall give of the Rebels *Sacrilege* and *Prophanenesse*, is in the Cathedrall Church of *Winchester*: which Citie, as it was the Royall Seat of the Kings of the *West Saxons*, in the time of the *Heptarchy*, so was it the Seat of the Bishops of that people, after *Kenwalsthus* King of the *West Saxons* (not brooking the Barbarous broken expressions of *Agilbertus* his Bishop) divided this large *Diocesse* betweene *Agilbertus* and *Wina*, and leaving *Agilbertus* to reside at *Dorchester*, caused *Wina* to be Consecrated Bishop of *Winchester*. Before we tell you by whom, and in what manner this Church was robbed and spoyled of its Ornaments and beautie, it will not be impertinent (while it may serve as an aggravation of their impietie) briefly to set downe by whom this Church was built, and so richly adorned, as lately we saw it. This magnificent Structure which now stands, was begun by *Waldelinus* the thirtie fifth Bishop of this See: which worke left imperfect and but begun by him, was but coldly prosecuted by the succeeding Bishops, untill *William of Wickham* (the magnificent Sole founder of two Saint *Mary* Colledges, the one in *Oxford* commonly called *New Colledge*, the other a Nurcery to  
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this neare *Winchester* ) came to possesse this See: He amongst many other works of Pietie, built the whole Nave, or body of this Church, from the Quire to the West end, the Chappels on the East end beyond the Quire, had their severall Founders: The hallowed Ornaments and Utensills of this Church, being many, rich, and costly, were the gifts of severall Benefactors, who though their names perhaps are not recorded in earth, have found their reward in Heaven. This Church was first differenced by the name of Saint *Amphibalus*, who received a Crowne of Martyrdom under the persecution of *Dioclesian*: Next it exchanged this name for that of *S. Peter*; and againe, this, for that of Saint *Swithine*, the eighteenth Bishop of this See: Last of all, it was dedicated to the *Holy Trinity*, whose blessed name is now called upon it: which Holy name, though it could not but put the Rebels in mind whose possession and house it was, did not at all afford it patronage, and protection from their accursed rage and madnesse.

The Rebels under the Conduēt of Sir *William Waller*, late downe before the Citie of *Winchester*, on Tuesday the 12 of *December*, 1642. about twelve of the clock, and entered the City that afternoon between two and three: being Masters of the City, they instantly fall upon the Close, under a pretence to search for Cavaliers. They seize upon the Prebends Houses, and demand their persons with many threatening words: That night, they brake into some of the Prebends houses, such houses as they were directed unto, by their Brethren the Seditious Schismatics of the City, and Plundered their goods. But the Castle not yet surrendered into the Rebels hands, something awed their insolency: which being the next day delivered up to their power, did not only take away the restraint which was upon them, but encouraged them, without check or controule, to rob and despoile, both God and all good men. Wednesday therefore, and Wednesday night, being spent in Plundering  
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the Citie and Close, on Thursday morning between nine and ten of the clock (houres set apart for better employments, and therefore purposely in probability chosen by them, being resolved to prophane every thing that was *Canonically*) violently break open the Cathedrall Church, and being entered, to let in the Tyde, they presently open the great West doores where the Barbarous Souldiers stood ready, may greedy to rob God and pollute his Temple. The doores being open, as if they meant to invade God himselfe as well as his possession, they enter the Church with Colours flying, their Drums beating, their Matches fired, and that all might have their part in so horrid an attempt, some of their Troops of Horse also accompanied them in their march, and rode up through the body of the Church and Quire, untill they came to the Altar, there they begin their work, they rudely pluck downe the Table and break the Rayle: and afterwards carrying it to an Ale-house, they set it on fire, and in that fire burnt the Books of Common Prayer, and all the Singing books belonging to the Quire: they throw down the Organs, and breake the Stories of the Old and New Testament, curiously cut out in carved work, beautified with Colours, and set round about the top of the Stalls of the Quire: from hence they turne to the Monuments of the dead, some they utterly demolish, others they deface. They begin with *Bishop Fox* his Chappell, which they utterly deface, they break all the glasse Windows of this Chappel, not because they had any Pictures in them, either of *Patriarch*, *Prophet*, *Aposle* or *Saint*, but because they were of painted coloured-glasse: They demolish and over-turne the Monuments of *Cardinall Beaufort*, sonne to *John of Gaunt Duke of Lancaster*, by *Katherine Swinfort*, Founder of the Hospitall of *Saint Crosse* neare *Winchester*, who late Bishop of this see fortie three years. They deface the Monument of *William of Wainfleet*, Bishop likewise of *Winchester*, Lord *Chancellor* of *England*, and the Magnificent  
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Founder of *Margdalen College* in *Oxford*; which Monument in a gratefull pictie, being lately beautified, by some that have, or lately had relation to that foundation, made these Rebels more eager upon it, to deface it: but while that College, the unparalled example of his bountie, stands, in despight of the malice of these inhumane Rebels, *William of Wainfleet* cannot want a more lasting Monument, to transmit his memory to posterity: from hence they got into *Queen Maries Chappel*, so called, because in it she was married to King *Philip of Spaine*: here they brake the Communion Table in pieces, & the Velvet Chaire whereon she sate when she was married. They attempted to deface the Monument of the late Lord Treasurer the *Earle of Portland*, but being in Brasse, their violence made small impression on it, therefore they leave that, and turne to his Fathers Monument, which being of Stone, was more obnoxious to their fury: here, mistaking a *Judge* for a *Bishop*, led into the error by the resemblance or counterfeite of a square Cap on the head of the *Statua*, they strike off, not onely the Cap, but the head too of the *Statua*, and so leave it. Amongst other Acts of Bountie and Pietie, done by *Richard Fox* the fiftie seventh Bishop of this *See*, he covered the Quire, the Presbytery, and the Isles adjoyning, with a goodly Vault, and new glazed all the windowes of that part of the Church, and caused the bones of such *Kings, Princes* and *Bishops*, as had boene buried in this Church, and lay dispersed and scattered in severall parts of the Cathedrall, to be collected and put into severall Chests of Lead, with inscriptions on each Chest, whose bones lodged in them: These Chests (to preserve them from rude and prophane hands) he caused to be placed on the top of a wall, of exquisite workmanship built by him, to inclose the *Presbytery*: there, never to be removed (as a man might thinke) but by the last *Trumpe*, did rest the bones of many *Kings & Queens*, as of *Alfredus, Edwardus Senior, Madreda* the brother of *Athelstane, Edgarus, Canu-*  
*ty,*

*ius, Hardicanutus, Emma the Mother, and Edward the Confessor* her Sonne, *Kingliff* the first founder of the Cathedrall of *Winchester*, *Egbert* who abolishing the *Hep-tarchy* of the *Saxons*, was the first *English Monarch*, *William Rufus*, and diverse others: with these, in the Chests, were deposited the bones of many *Giddy Bishops*, and *Confessors*, as, of *Birinus*, *Hedda*, *Swithinus*, *Frithestanus*, *Saint Elphegus the Confessor*, *Stigandus*, *Wina*, and others. Had not the barbarous inhumane impietic, of these Schismatics and Rebels shewed the contrary, we could not have imagined, that any thing but the like *Pietie* that here inslained them, or a *Resurrection* should ever have disturbed the repose of these venerable, yet not *Papish Reliques*. But these Monsters of men to whom nothing is holy, nothing is Sacred, did not stick to prophane and violate these Cabinets of the dead, and to scatter their bones all over the pavement of the Church: for on the North side of the Quire they threw down the Chests, wherein were deposited the bones of the *Bishops*, the like they did to the bones of *William Rufus*, of *Queene Emma*, of *Hardicanutus*, and *Edward the Confessor*, and were going on to practise the like impietic on the bones of all the rest of the *West Saxon Kings*. But the Out-cry of the people, detesting so great inhumanitie, caused some of their Commanders (more compassionate to these ancient Monuments of the dead then the rest) to come in amongst them, and to restraine their madnes. But that diabolish malice which was not permitted to rage and overflow to the turning & trampling on the bones of all, did satiate itself even to a prodigious kind of wantonnesse, on those which were already in their power: And therefore as it they meant (if it had been possible) to make these bones contract a *Posthume* guilt, by being now made passive Instruments, of more then heathenish Sacrilege, and prophanenesse, those Windows which they could not reach with their Swords, Muskets, or Rests, they brake to pieces, by throwing at them the bones of

*Kings,*



*Kings, Queens, Bishops, Confessors and Saints*: So that the spoyle done on the Windowes will not be repaired for a thousand pounds: nor did the *Living* find better measure from them then the *dead*: for whereas our *Dread Sovereigne* that now is (the best of *Kings*) was graciously pleased, as a pledge of his Princely favour to this Church, to honour it with the gift of his owne *Statua*, together with the *Statua* of his deare Father *King James*, of ever blessed memory, both of massy *Brasse*: both which *Statua's* were erected at the front of the entrance into the *Quire*: These Atheisticall Rebels, as if they would not have so much of the *Militia* to remaine with the *King*, as the bare Image, and representation of a *Sword* by his side; They break off the *Swords* from the sides of both the *Statua's*: they breake the *Crosse* from off the *Globe*, in the hand of the *Statua* of our gracious Sovereign now living, and with their *Swords* hacked and hewed the *Crown* on the head of it, Swearing, *They would bring Him back to His Parliament*: A most flagitious crime, and such, as that for the like *S. Chrysostome, Hom. 2. Ad populum Antioch.* with many teares complaines, he much feared, the *Citie of Antioch, the Metropolis and head* (as he calls it) *of the East, would have been destroyed from the face of the earth*: for when in a Tumult, the Seditious Citizens of *Antioch* had done the like affront to *Theodosius the Emperour*, in overturning his *Statua's*, how doth that holy Bishop bemoane? how doth he bewaile that *Citie*? which, fearing the severe effects of the abused *Emperours* just indignation, of a *Populous Citie, a Mother boasting of a Numerous Issue, was on the sudden become a widow, left desolate, and forsaken of her Inhabitants*: some, out of the sense and horror of the guilt abandoning the *Citie*, and flying into the desolate *Wildernesse*, others lurking in holes, and confining themselves to the darke corners of their own houses, thereby hoping to escape the vengeance due to so Disloyall, so Traitorous a Fact; because of this foul injury offered the Empe-

*your Statue, He (as that Father speakes) was wronged, that was the Supreme head of all men, and had no equall on Earth.* But what wonder is it, that these miscreants, should offer such scornfull indignities to the *Representation* of his *Reyall Person*, and the *Emblems* of his *Sacred power*, when the heads of this damnable Rebellion (who set these their Agents on work) offer worse affronts to his Sacred Person *himself*, and by their *Rebellious Votes*, and *illegal Ordinances*, daily strike at the *Substance* of that power, of which the *Crowne*, the *Sword*, and *Scepter*, are but *Emblemes* and *shadowes*, which yet notwithstanding, ought to have been venerable and awefull to these men, in respect of their *Relation*? After all this, as if what they had already done, were all too little, they go on in their horrible wickednesse, they seize upon all the Communion Plate, the Bibles, and Service-Books, Rich hangings, large Cushions of Velvet, all the Pulpit-Clothes, some whereof were of Cloth of Silver, some of Cloth of Gold: They brake up the *Muniment house*, and take away the Common Seale of the Church, supposing it to be Silver, and a faire piece of guile Plate, given by Bishop *Cotton*: They teare the Evidences of their Lands, and cancell their Charter; in a word, what ever they found in the Church of any value, and portable, they take it with them, what was neither, they either deface, or destroy it. And now having *Ransacked* the Church, having *defied God* in his own house, and the *King* in his own *Statue*, having *violated* the *Urns* of the dead, having *abused* the bones, & *scattered* the *Ashes* of deceased *Monarchs*, *Bishops*, *Saints*, and *Confessors*, they returne in Triumph, bearing their spoyles with them. The Troopers (because they were most conspicuous) ride through the streets in surplices, with such Hoods and Tippetts as they found: and that they might boast to the world how glorious a Victory they had atchieved, they hold out their *Trophies* to all *spectators*: for the Troopers thus clad in the Priests Vestments, rode carrying Common Prayer Books in one hand, and

and some broken Organ Pipes, together with the mangled pieces of Carved worke but now mentioned, containing some Histories of both Testaments, in the other. In all this, giving too just occasion, to all good Christians to complaine with the Psalmist. *O God the Heathen are come into thine Inheritance. Thy holy Temples have they defiled, The dead bodies of thy Servants have they abused, and scattered their bones as one beweth wood upon the earth. Help us, O God of our Salvation, for the glory of thy Name,* Psal. 79.

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## Mercurius Rusticus, &c.

### IV.

*The Rebels Prophanation and horrible abuse of the Abby Church of Westminster: Together with their severall Out rages and Abominations committed on the Cathedrall Church of Exeter, &c.*

IF in the Catalogue of Plundered Cathedralls, we In-  
rowle the now Collegiat Church of Westminster, I hope  
I shall not be thought to make my discourse, no more of  
kin to my Title, then Mountaine doth some of his Essayes:  
For if we looke backe on the various condition of this  
Church (no place set apart for Religious Persons, having  
so often shifted its owners) we shall find that amongst  
many changes, it had the honour of a Bishops See. On  
the dissolution of the Abbies, amongst the rest, Henry the  
Eighth suppressed this Monastery, and in the place there-  
of founded a Deanery, Anno, 1536. And two yeares after,  
added a Bishoprick to the Deanery. The Bishop sate here  
but nine yeares, and againe resigned his dilapidated Re-  
venue into the hands of a Deane Middlesex, which was

the Diocesse of the Bishoprick, being devolved to *London*: yet though this Bishoprick of *Westminster*, as it relates to the *Saxons*, was but of moderne Erection, yet in the time of the Ancient *Britons*, it was no lesse then the See of the Arch-Bishop of *London*: and therefore it is more then probable, that, that record which tells us, that the Arch-bishop of *London* See was planted in *Saint Peters in Cornhill*, was either corrupted or mistaken, for *S. Peters in Thorney*: for *Sic olim à spinis*, as Learned *Cambden*, and other Antiquaries affirm, from the great crop of thorns which heretofore grew there, that which we now call *Westminster*, was then called *Thorney*. This Church so famous for it's Antiquitie, so admired for it's Elegancy of Structure, especially by the addition of *Henry the seventh's* Chappel, a Pile of that polished magnificence, *Ut omnem Elegantiam in illo acervatam dicas*, as if Art and Bountie had conspired to rayse it to a wonder of the world. Lastly, a Church so venerable, as being once the seat of an Arch-Bishop, and a Bishop, and now a long time the place where the Kings of *England* receive their sacred *Unction*, and *Crowns* at their *Coronation*, and where their bodies rest in honourable Sepulture, when they have exchanged their *Temporall* for *Eternall Crownes*. This Church, under the eye, and immediat protection of the pretended Houses of Parliament, had it's share in spoyle and prophanation, as much as those Cathedralls which were more remote from them: for in *July* last, 1643 some Souldiers of *Westborne* and *Caswoods* Companies (perhaps because there were no houses in *Westminster*) were quartered in the *Abby Church*, where (as the rest of our Moderne Reformers) they brake down the Rayl about the Altar, & burnt it in the place where it stood: They brake downe the Organs, and pawned the Pipes at severall Ale-houses for pots of Ale: They put on some of the Singing-mens Surplices, & in contempt of that Canonickall Habite, ran up and down the Church, he that wore the Surplice was the Hare, the rest were the Hounds. To  
shew

shew their *Christian Libertie* in the use of things, and that all *Consecration*, or *Hallowing of things* under the Gospel, is but a *Jewish* or *Popish* Superstition, and that they are no longer to be accounted holy, then that holy use to which they serve, shall by the actuall use onely, impart a transient holinesse to them, they set Formes about the Communion Table, there they eat, & there they drink Ale and Tobacco: some of their owne *Leuites* (if my Intelligence deceive me not) bearing them company, and countenancing so beastly Prophanation. Nor was this done once to vindicate their *Christian Libertie*, as they call Prophanation it selfe, but the whole time of their abode there, they made it their common table on which they usually dined and supp'd, though Saint *Paul* calls it *despising the Church of Christ*, and asks his *Corinthians*, if they had not houses to eat and to drink in. 1 Cor. 11. They did the easements of nature, and layd their excrements about the Altar, and in most places of the Church. An abomination which God did provide against by a peculiar prohibition in the Law of *Moses*; and that, in places not rendered so dreadfull, by so peculiar a manner of the presence of God, as in the hallowed Temples of his publique worship: God would not permit the *Jewes* to do these offices of nature in the *Camp*, they must have a place without the *Camp*, and a Paddle to dig and cover it; you have the Law, and the reason of the Law, both together, they must not doe so; For the Lord thy God walketh in the midst of the *Campe*, therefore shall thy *Campe* be ho'y, that he see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee, Deut. 23:12. If God, for these reasons would not endure it in the *Camp*, how much more doth his soule abhorre such beastly uncleannesse in his House, and holy Temple? Nay, which is the height of all Impiety, they familiarly kept their whores in the Church, and which I tremble to write (Prodigious Monsters as they are) lay with them on the very Altar it selfe, and did in that place commit such things as are unfit to be done by *Christians*.

There remain yet two *Profanations* more of this Church, not to be passed over in silence. The first was committed by Sir *Robert Harlow*, who breaking into *Henry the seventh's Chappell*, brake down the Altar-stone which stood before that goodly Monument of *Henry the seventh*; the stone was Touch-stone all of one piece, a Raritie not to be matched that we know of, in any part of the world: there it stood for many years, not for use, but only for Ornament: yet it did not escape the frenzy of this mans ignorant zeal, for he brake it into shivers. The second was committed on the 13 of *December*, 1643. When the Carcasse of *John Pym* (as much as the Lice left of it) was brought into this Church, and after a Sermon preached by *Stephen Marshall*, Arch-Flamine of the Rebels, and the Church Service Officiated by *Lambart Orbaston*, one of the Prebends of that Church, it was interr'd under the Monumentall stone of one *Windsor*, buried about 200 yeares since in the voyd space, or passage as you goe to *Henry the seventh's Chappell*, betweene the *Earle of Dovers* place of buriall, and the Monument of *Henry the Third*, Founder of that Church: usurp'd Ensignes of honour displayed over him. 'Twas pittie, that he, that in his life had bin the Author of so much bloudshed, and those many calamities, under which this Kingdome yett groanes, and therefore deserved, not onely to have his death with the transgressours and wicked, but afterward to be buried with the buriall of an *Ass*, drawn, and cast forth beyond the Gates of the City, Jer. 22. 19, should after his death make his Sepulchre amongst the Honourable, and mingle his *Vulgar*, Lowzy ashes, with those of *Kings*, *Princes*, and *Nobles*.

The sixt Instance of the Rebels *Sacrilege* and *Prophanesse*, which I shall present unto the world, is in the Cathedrall Church of *Exeter*: which was once a *Monastry*, Founded by *Athelstane* the eighth King of *England*, of the *Saxon* race, & by him consecrated to *Saint Peter*. *Edward the Confessor*, removing all the Monks from hence,  
and

and planting them at *Westminster*, which he had newly founded and endowed, made it the Bishops See for *Devon* and *Cornwall*: That Pile which we now see, owes it's being to many Founders. *William Warlewast*, the third Bishop of this See, after it was translated from *Cridington*, or as it is now usally called *Kirtow*, to *Exeter*, built the Quire which now is, but was intended by the Founder for the Nave or body of the Church: but *Peter Quivill*, the 13th. Bishop of this See, layd the foundation of that which is now the body of the Church: but he prevented by death, left the worke imperfect: *Joha Grandesson* therefore, the seventeenth Bishop of this See, thinking the foundation layd by his Predecessor *Quivill*, to be faultie in *Geometrical* proportions, the length not being answerable to the height, added two Pillars more to the length of the Nave of the Church; of a distance, proportionable to those layd before: he closed up the end with a wall of most exquisite worke, in which, he built a Little Chappell, and in that Chappell a Monument, wherein himselte was intombed. He built likewise, the two side Iles, and covered the whole Fabrick with an Arch of exquisite worke, and brought it to such perfection, that in splendor and magnificence, it gives precedency to few Cathedrals of the Kingdom: and which is very remarkable, though this Church was first began by King *Athelstane*, and made many steps before it came to arrive at its perfection, so that there are numbred almost *five hundred yeares* from the laying the *first stone*, to the covering of the *Roofe*; yet the wisdom and care of the severall Benefactors was so great, that the most curious Surveyor, must confesse, that the *Symmetry* of the parts, and the *proportions* of the whole, are so exact, as from the *Foundation* to the *Roofe*, had been the work, not of one age onely, but of one, and the same hand: and that the Ornaments of the Church might be answerable to the beauty of the Structure it selfe, Bishop *Grandesson*, bestowed upon it Vessels of Gold, and Vessels of Silver, Bookes, and

all other kinds of rich furniture, *Copia Immensâ, Immensâ pretii: in exceeding great measure, of exceeding great price.* All which, with many other things of necessary use, and Publique Ornament, became a prey to the Schismaticall Rebels; whose sinne was so much the greater, because being neither *iraged by Opposition*, nor made *insolent by conquest*, (Apologies that may possibly be taken up for other Rebels, in other places, as *Chichester* and *Winchester*) but which was a maine aggravation of their crime, *Citizens within their own wall, in coole blood, not provoked*, spoyle, and lay wast their *Mother-Church*: for after this Citie (now most unworthy of those priviledges, and honorary rewards, once purchased by their Loyaltie, now forfeited by ingratitude and rebellion) had once shut up their Gates against their King: it was not long before they shut up the Gates likewise of *God's house*, denying all access to devout persons, there to make their Prayers and Supplications: so neare bordering upon *Rebellion* against the King, is *Atheisme* and *Contempt of God*: for having demanded the Keyes of the Cathedral, and taken them into their own custody, they presently interdict divine Service to be celebrated: so that for the space of three quarters of a yeare, the *Holy Liturgy* lay totally silenced. Nor was the restrainer upon the *Reading Deske* only, the *Pulpit* was made inaccessible to all *Orthodox Loyall Ministers*, and was open only to *Factionous Schismaticall Preachers*; whose Doctrine was Rebellion, and their Exhortation Treason, that so the people might hear nothing but what might foment their disloyaltie, and confirm them in their unnatural revolt, from their dutie and obedience. Having the Church in their possession, in a most Puritanicall beastly manner, they make it a common Jakes for the Exonerations of Nature, sparing no place, neither the *Altar*, nor the *Pulpit*, though this last finds a better place in their estimation then the former: yet prophaned it was, *now*, so prophaned, that it remains a doubt yet undetermined,



ned, which prophaned it most in their kinds, either the *common Souldiers*, or their *Leſſurers*. Over the Communion Table, in fair letters of gold, was written the *holy & blessed Name of Jesus*: this they expunge as Superstitious and execrable. On each side of the Commandements, the Pictures of *Moses* and *Aaron* were drawn in full proportion: these they deface, they teare the Books of Common-Prayers to pieces, and as if this had bin too small a contempt, and despite done to that forme of Gods holy worship, they use them, as if they had been a second sacrifice of *Curious Arts*, and burne them at the *Altar* with exceeding great Exultation and expressions of joy. They made the Church their Store-house, where they kept their Ammunition and Powder, and planted a Court of Guard to attend it, who used the Church, with the same reverence that they would an Ale-house, and defiled it with tipling and taking Tobacco: they broke and defaced all the glasse windows of the Church, which cannot be repaired for many hundred pounds: and left all those ancient Monuments, being painted glasse, and containing matter of story only, a miserable spectacle of commiseration to all well-affected hearts that behold them. They strook off the heads of all the Statues on all monuments in the Church, especially they deface the *Bishops Tombs*, leaving one without a head, another without a Nose, one without a hand, and another without an arme. A sad Embleme of that *Trunke of Episcopacy*, which the accursed *Atheists* of these times have fancied to themselves, and endeavoured: a poore deformed, mangled, mutilated thing, having neither head of *Prestation*, nor face of *honour*, nor arme, nor hand, nor finger of *power and jurisdiction*: they pluck down and deface the *Statua* of an ancient Queen, the wife of *Edward the Confessor*, the first Founder of this Church, mistaking it for the *Statua* of the blessed *Virgin Mary*, the *Mother of God*; So she was stiled by the *holy Catholique Church*, many yeares before it was in danger to be voted *Blasphemy* in that

that Committee where learned *Miles Corbet* sate in the Chaire. They brake downe the Organs, and taking two or three hundred Pipes with them, in a most scornfull contemptuous manner, went up and downe the streets piping with them: and meeting with some of the Choristers of the Church, whose Surplices they had stolne before, and imployed them to base servile offices, scoffingly told them, *Boyes, we have spoiled your trade, you must goe and sing bot Pudding Pies.* By the absolutenesse of their power, they send forth their Warrants to take away the Lead off a Conduit and a great Cistern that stood in the midst of the Close, giving plentifull supplies of water to many hundreds of Inhabitants; and by vertue of the same warrant, they give their agents power to take a great quantitie of Timber, which was layd up and designed for the repairing of the Church; such Timber as that it will be a very hard matter to procure the like, all Timber not being fit for that use: and with these a great stock of Lead out of the common Store-house, reserved there for the same purpose; which warrants were accordingly put in execution to the full. They did enter into a Consultation about taking downe the Bells, and all the Lead that covered the Church, to convert them into warlike Ammunition, the Bells might be cast into Cannon, the Lead into Bullets, both would serve towards the effecting their Trayterous designs. They took downe the Gates of the Close, which the *Deane* and *Chapter* had set up, and kept locked every night for their securitie: which Gates they imployed, to help forward and strengthen their Fortifications: They lay intollerable Taxes on most of the Members of the Church, and whosoever refused to submit to those most unjust illegall Impositions, were threatned to have their houses Plundered, and their persons sent on ship-board; where they must expect usage, as bad as at *Argier*, or the *Gallies*. Doctor *Burnell*, a grave Learned man, and Canon of that Church, refusing to submit to their

Tax-

Taxations, they gave command (though he were at that time sick and conuased, not only to his Chamber, but to his bed) to take him in the night, and bring him away to Prison, though they brought him in his bed: but upon much importunitie, some of the best ranke of the Citizens being tendered his securitie, to render himselfe a true prisoner, for that time they lett him. For the like refusall, they tooke Doctor *Hutchinson*, another Canon of the Church, a man of a weake and infirme body, but of a vigorous knowing Soule; and violently carryed him towards the Ship, there to imprison him; by the way as they carryed him along, he was (not only by the permission but by the encouragement of those that led him Captive) blasted, and abused, and howted at by the boyes, and exposed to the affronts and reuilings of the base insolent multitude: at twelve of the clock at night they seized on Master *Hittier* in his bed, and another Canon of that Church, being almost fourscore and ten yeares of age, and for the like refusall, because he would not disburle such sumis as they demanded, for the maintenance of this horrid Rebellion, they carry him first to the prison, and from thence to the Ship: In the way to the Prison, they throw dirt in his face, and beat the good old man; so cruelly, that his roaring and out-cryes were heard, and pittied by all his neighbours: and at last, not able to indure (by reason of his extream old age) the barbarous usage of the Rebels, he was forced to redeem his libertie at eight hundred pounds: and now having dispossessed the owners, the Rebels find new employments for the Canons houses: some of them they convert into Prisons, and in an Apish imitation, call them by the names of *Newgate*, *Kings Bench*, *Marshalsey*; others they employ, as *Hospitals* for sick or maimed Souldiers: Some they use as *Slaughter-houses* and *Shambles*; and for the Bishops *Palace*, they might have called it their *Smith-field*, for in, and about it, they kept their fat Oxen and sheepe, and all their Plundered Provision. These houses, though  
fouly

fouly abused, yet doe still stand, as to upbraid the Rebels injustice and oppression; so to give entertainment to their own Masters, or their successours, unlesse some men, possessed with worse devils then ruled in these children of disobedience, shall to their just damnation alienate them from their Originall use: but other houses belonging to the Church, they set on fire, and burn down to the ground: for they burnt downe the *Guild-Hall* in *Saint Sidwells*, belonging to the *Dean and Chap'ler*, and as many houses more of the ancient Inheritance and Revenues as were worth 100 *li per annum*, making likewise great havock and spoyle of their Woods and Timber, maliciously intending to disable them from re-edifying what they had most barbarously burnt downe.

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## Mercurius Rustius, &c.

### V.

*The Cathedrall Church of Peterborough robb'd, defac'd, and spoil'd by Cromwel, and his Schismaticall Adherents, &c.*

COULD we sooner have produced a certain and full relation of the observable circumstances, about the ruines and desolations of the sometimes flourishing, though now demolished *Cathedrall* of *Peterborough*, the same might justly have challenged to have been inserted before this time and place, both in respect of the dignitie of the Ancient, Religious, and Royall Founders, the fame of the irreligious and unworthy defacers, the admirable vicissitude of its owne condition, and reasons of its Fatall doom, having suffered not so much by the fury of the *Danes*, because a rich Monastery, as by the zeale of *Cromwel*, because

cause an Episcopall See : and (it his knowledge reached so high) for that it had beene so much and often honoured by the Princes of this Nation in severall ages.

When *Penda* the first Christian King of the *Mercians*, to propagate the faith of Christ, layd the foundation, but had a sudden period put to his life and pious intentions by his unnaturall and wicked mother, *Wolpher* his brother, albeit at the first averse, yet afterwards a convert to Christianitie, (to expiate the murder of his two sonnes, whom he had cruelly put to death for imbracing the Gospel before him) by the help of his brother *Ethelred*, and his sisters *Kumburga*, and *Kinswith*, having finished that worke in the yeare of our Lord, 633. consecrated it to the memory of Saint *Peter* (whence the place ever since hath been stiled *Peterborough*, which before was called *Medeſ-wel-hamsted*, or *Medeſhamsted*) and it continued for the space of two hundred and fourteen yeares, in such glory, that in the judgement of our Learned Antiquary, *Monasterium suis longè Celeberrimum*, till the *Danes* massacred the Monks, and destroyed that place of devotion, which was after an 108. yeares restored to its former state, by *Æthelwold* Bishop of *Winchester*, assisted by King *Edgar* and *Adulph* his Chancellour, about the yeares of our Lord, 960. in which it remained, untill covetous Sacrilege began to get the upper hand of well-meaning charitie in his reigne, who was as fitly, as truly said to have had *Ingentes virtutes, nec minora vitia*, though at the undoing of its Kindred, this had least reason to complaine, being then advanced to a Bishops See; But this third woe hath so much disfigured that Majestie, which till then this building retained in its fore-front, this *Cromwel* hath so farre out-vied in acts of Pietie his Precedent, that *Cromwel* in *Henry* the eighth's time, this place hath now suffered in so great a manner for its Loyaltie, as that we know not where to enter upon the narration of the same, except at the great West-window (where his Souldiers made their first  
breach

breach and entrance) which was adorned with such variety of Ecclesiasticall History, as will evidence them to be deformaters of that through Reformation in our blessed Queenes time of happy memory, whom notwithstanding they so highly cryed up. From thence they presently hurried to the Quire, where as soone as they had broken open the doores, they, according to their trade and custome in other places, fell on tearing in pieces the Books of *Divine Service*, and Sacred *Anthems*, yea (which may seem more strange) they were so hot against Preaching or hearing Sermons, that all the seats of the Auditors were plucked up, and the *Pulpit*, the place of the Divine Oracle, and the Booke-seat pulled downe, with that black-mouthed cry, *Downe with that throne of Antichrist, downe with it even to the ground*. And when their zeale had driven them to that height of impietie, that some standers by could not behold it without great reluctancy, which moved one of them to request *Cromwell*, that he would please to stay his Souldiers from further defacing and ruining that place, all the satisfaction he could get, was but a provocation to further mischief, replying, That his gods were a pulling down, and when the other answered, *That the God he served was beyond the reach of Souldiers*, *Cromwel* told them, *That they did God good service in that action*, as if even in these days were fulfilled that Prophecie of our Saviour, *Joh. 16. 2. The time is coming, whosoever doth the greatest mischief will thinke he serveth God*. But observe the wages that Divine Justice repayed one of them for their worke, which may testifie how he accepted of the same; When they had demolished the Quire, the East-end was the next they aimed at, where one espying in the roof right over the *Communion Table*, our Saviour pourtrayed, coming in glory with his holy Angels, and at the foure corners four Evangelists (none of which they will endure, as knowing how opposite they are unto them) he charged his Musket to shatter them down, but by the rebound of his  
own

own shot was struck blind; If he did his God good thereby, he did himselfe and ill turne, his wickednesse falling on his own pate; He lay a long while in a wofull condition, and never recovered his former sight: His life by Gods mercy was reprieved, that he might repent, but he was surely scourged, that he might take notice there is punishment for Sacrilege, and beare witness of that truth unto his fellowes, although he found more favour then *Calisthenes*, who attempting to burne the Temples, by setting fire on the Gates, was for that act himselfe burned; or *Alcimus*, who whilst he was pulling the house of God downe, was struck with a Palsie, and dyed in torment. Some would have thought, that, that remarkable judgement overtaking him so on the sudden, suffaminated their running on, and that striking of him blind, should have opened their eyes. But let favour be shewed to the wicked, yet they will not learne righteousness in the land of uprightness, they will deale unjustly, and will not behold the Majestie of the Lord; but Lord, when thy hand is lifted up they will not see, as thou fore-toldest by thy Prophet, *Isay* 26. 10, 11, 13. it should come to passe, *When other Lords besides thee have dominion over us*; They were not at all deterred, neither left any wayes unattempted to get downe that rooffe which Ladders failed, they cut the Bell-ropes (*which if rightly applyed, might have cured their Itch*) to cke out their tackling, till they reached it with their Pole-axes, and brake downe the carved workes, *Psal.* 7. 4. Afterwards, espying the rare Structure of Stone-workes over the Altar, admired by all travellers for the excellent artifices, which was no ways guilty of superstitious workmanship, they made all of it rubbishy, breaking up also the Rayles of which they compiled bonfires, tumbling the *Communion Table* over and over, they were also, so offended with all memorialls of the dead, (knowing themselves in the number of those whose memories at the best shall perish, as if they had never beene)  
that

that not one Monument in the Church escaped undefaced, no not of the Pious Benefactors (whose accusation was sufficient, they had done good to the Church) nor those two faire Tombes of *Katherine Queen Dowager of Spaine*, the *Repudiate of King H. 8.* and *Mary*, albeit *Queen of Scots*. It was great a crime to have beene Queenes, the marble walls, and guards of irons wherewith they were surrounded and incircled, could not preserve them in repose from all their miseries, but they would adde this one unto the rest, to lay the *Emblemes* of their honours in the dust, pulling away the Hearle of black Velvet, and carrying away whatsoever was vendible: When their unhallowed toy-lings had made them out of wind, they took breath afresh on two pair of Organs, piping with the very same about the market place lascivious Jigges, whilst their Comrades daunced after them, some in the Coapes, others with the Surplices, and downe they brake the bellows to blow the coales of their further milchiefe, and lest any should ring ake for the fire they had made, they leit the Bells speechlesse, taking out their clappers, which they sold with the Brasse they staled from the graven Stones, and the Tin and Iron from other parts of the Church and Chappells belonging thereto, which were many, and richly adorned, but the daughters fared no better then their Mother; there was not suffered any window to remain unshattered, or remarkable place in them unruined, their intent being to leave those consecrated wals as a room fitted for vermine to nestle in, or which was worse for Cap. *Aswell* to exercise his Souldiers in, where while he was in Town he made his Rendezvous, and when they went away, set fire on some part of the wood-work, to have burnt the remainder down, if it had not timely been discovered, neither did the Cloysters attending, scape better then those they were made to wait upon, though these, both in their roof and glazing, might be compared with the chiefest *Cathedrals*, the first square being beautified with the History  
of



of the Old Testament, the second of the New, the third shewed the whole relation of those by whom the Church was builded, the fourth presented us with all the Effigies of our Kings since *William the Conquerour*: But it seemes, those unreasonable and wicked men care for Scripture, and Princes, and Pious Monuments all alike, their wide throats were as open Sepulchers, their Sacrilegious appetites (being yet unsatisfied with devouring) must needs swallow up the Lands appertaining to that Church; to which, that they might pretend the juster title, they broke open the Charter-house, Plundered away the great Charter, all the Evidences, Leases, and other Writings belonging therunto, manifesting their parties desires to have all Estates of others to come, and be at their Arbitrary disposalls, and they unto whom in right they are due, to lye as these places and persons at this day, mourning in sack-cloth and ashes.

S

Reader



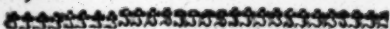
## TO THE READER.

**E**ngland lately gloried in being Mistresse of 28 famous Cathedral Churches, beautif'd with such magnificent Structure, that no Nation in *Europe* could equalize them; and of these, the Impietie and Irreligion of the Schismaticall Reformers of these times, hath hardly left any one undefaced, though for the present the exact relation of the particulars are not come to our hands. God in his good time will, wee doubt not, poure downe his judgements upon the Actors of these horrid Prophaneations.



# A Catalogue of the Cathedralls in ENGLAND and WALES.

1 Canterbury.	19 Peterborough.
2 Rochester.	20 Bristol.
3 London.	21 Landaffe.
4 Lincoln.	22 S. Davids.
5 Chichester.	23 Bangor.
6 Winchester.	24 S. Asaph.
7 Salisbury.	
8 Exeter.	York Province.
9 Bath. }	
10 Wells. }	25 York.
11 Gloucester.	26 Chester.
12 Worcester.	27 Carlile.
13 Lichfield. }	28 Durham.
14 Coventry. }	
15 Hereford.	Besides,
16 Ely.	1 Rippon.
17 Norwich.	2 Southwell. And,
18 Oxford.	3 Westm. Abby.



A  
**Generall Bill of Mor-**  
**talitie, of the Clergy of**  
*London*, which have been de-  
 funct by reason of the Con-  
 tagious breath of the Seſſaries  
 of that Citie, from the yeare  
 1641. to this preſent yeare 1647. with  
 the ſeverall Casualties of the ſame.

O R,

*London.*

*A briefe Martyrologie and Cata-  
 logue of the Learned, Grave, Re-  
 ligious and painfull Miniſters of  
 the Citie of London, who have  
 been Impriſoned, Plundered, bar-  
 barouſly uſed, and deprived of all  
 livelyhood for themſelves and  
 their Families in theſe laſt years:  
 For their conſtancy in the Prote-  
 ſtant Religion eſtabliſht in this  
 Kingdome, and their Loyaltie to  
 their Sovereigne.*

**T**He Cathedral Church of Saint Pauls,  
 the Dean, Reſidentiaries, and other mem-  
 bers of that Church, Sequeſtered, Plundered,  
 and turned out. —

*Albans*

*Alban* Wood-street. *D. Wals* Sequestred,  
Plundered, his wife and children turned out  
of doores, himselfe forced to fly.

*Alballowes* Barking. *D. Lafeld* Pursuanted,  
Imprisoned in *Ely* house, and the Ships Se-  
questred, and Plundered, afterwards forced  
to flye.

*Alballowes* Bread-street.

*Alballowes* Great.

*Alballowes* Hony-lane.

*Alballowes* Little.

*Alballowes*. *Lumbard-street*. *M. Weyson* Seque-  
stred.

*Alballowes* Staining.

*Alballowes* the Wall.

*Alphage*. *D. Hopte* shamedly abused, his Cap  
pul'd off, to see if he were not a shaven Priest,  
voted out, and

*Andrew* Hubbard. *D. Chambers* Sequestred.

*Andrew* Undershaft 1. *M. Mason* through vex-  
ation forced to resigne.

2. *M. Pritchard* after that Sequestred.

*Andrew* Wardrobe. *D. Isarson* Sequestred.

*Anne* Aldersgate. *D. Clowes* Sequestred.

*Anne* Black-fryars,

*Antholins* Parish.

*Austins* Parish, *M. Viall* Sequestred, his be-  
rid wife turn'd out of doores, and left in the  
streets.

*Bartholmew* Exchange. *D. Grant* Sequestred.

*Bennet* Fynck. *M. Warfield* Sequestred.

*Bennet* Grace-Church. *M. Quelch* Sequestred.

*Bennet* Pauls wharfe. *M. Adams* Sequestred.

*Bennet* Sheerhog. *M. Morgan*

*Betsolph* Billingsgate. *M. King* Sequestred and  
forc't to flye.

Dead  
with  
griefe.

Dead  
with  
griefe.

<i>Christ-Church.</i>	turn'd out, and	<i>Dead.</i>
<i>Christophers. M. Hanslowe</i>	forc't to resigne.	
<i>Clement East-cheap. M. Stone</i>	shamefully abused, Sequestred, sent Prisoner to Plimouth, and Plundred.	
<i>Dionys Back-Church. M. Hammes</i>	Sequestred and abused.	
<i>Dunstons East. D. Childerley</i>	reviled, abused, and	<i>Dead.</i>
<i>Edmonds Lumbard-street. M. Paget</i>	molested, silenced, and	<i>Dead.</i>
<i>Fithelborough. M. Clark</i>	Sequestred, Imprisoned.	
<i>Faiths. D. Browne</i>	Sequestred, and	<i>Dead.</i>
<i>Foslers. M. Batty</i>	Sequestred, Plundred, forced to flye, and	<i>Dead.</i>
<i>Gabriel Fenchurch. M. Cooke</i>	Sequestred.	
<i>George Botolph-lane. } D. Styles }</i>	forced to resigne.	
<i>Gregories by S. Pauls. }</i>		<i>Dead.</i>
<i>Hellens. M. Miller</i>	turn'd out.	
<i>James Dukes place. M.</i>	Sequestred.	
<i>James Garlick-hicke. 1. M. Freeman</i>	Plundred, and Sequestred.	
<i>2. M. Anthony</i>	his Curate turn'd out.	
<i>John Baptist. M. Walmsley</i>	Sequestred.	
<i>John Evangelist.</i>		
<i>John Zachary. M. Eldlyn</i>	Sequestred, forc't to flye, and Plundred.	
<i>Katherine Coleman. 1 D. Hill</i>	forc't to resigne.	
<i>2. M. Kibbuts</i>	Sequestred.	
<i>Katherine Cree-Church. M. Rush</i>	turn'd out.	
<i>Lawrence Jury. M. Crane</i>	Sequestred.	
<i>Laurence Pountney.</i>		
<i>Leonard East-cheap. M. Calfe</i>	forc't to give up to M. Koborow, Scribe to the Assembly.	<i>* Dead for want of necessities.</i>
<i>* Leonard Foster-lane. M. Ward</i>	forc't to flye, Plundred, Sequestred, and	
<i>Margaret Lothbury. M. Tabor</i>	Plundred, Im-	
	pri-	

prisoned in the Kings-Bench, his wife and children turn'd out of doores at midnight, and he Sequestred.

*Margaret Moses.*

*Margaret* New-Fish-street. M. *Pory* forc't to flye, Plundred and Sequestred.

*Margaret* Pattons. M. *Megs* Plundred, Imprisoned in Ely house, and Sequestred.

*Mary* Abchurch. M. *Stone* Plundred, sent Prisoner by Sea to Plimouth, and Sequestred.

*Mary* Aldermanbury.

*Mary* Alderniary. M. *Browne* forc't to forsake it.

*Mary* Le-bow. M. *Letch* Sequestred, and

*Mary* Boxhaw. M. *Proctor* forced to flye, and Sequestred.

*Dead with griefe.*

*Mary* Cole-Church.

*Mary* Hill. 1. *D. Baker* Sequestred, Purfivanted, and Imprisoned.

2. M. *Woodcock* turn'd out, and forc't to flye.

*Mary* Mounthaw. M. *Tbrall* Sequestred, and shamefully abused.

*Mary* Sommerfet. M. *Cooke* Sequestred.

*Mary* Stainings.

*Mary* Wool-Church. M. *Tireman* forc't to forsake it.

*Mary* Woolnoth. M. *Shute* molested, and vext to death, and denyed a Funerall Sermon to be preach't by *D. Holdsworth*, as he desired.

*Dead.*

*Martins* Iron-monger-lane. M. *Sparke* Sequestred and Plundred.

*Martins* Ludgate. *D. Iermin* Sequestred.

*Martins* Ogars. *D. Walton* Assaulted, Sequestred, Plundred, forc't to flye.

M. *Masse* his Curate turn'd out.

*Martins* Outwich. D. *Pierce* Sequestred; and *Dead*  
*Martins* Vintry. D. *Rivers* Sequestred, Plundered, and forc't to fly.

*Mathew* Fryday-street. M. *Chestlen* violently assaulted in his house, Imprisoned in the Compter, thence sent to Colchester Gaole in Essex; Sequestred and Plundered.

*Mauritins* Milk-street. M. *Jones* Sequestred.

*Maudlins* Old fish-street. D. *Griffith* Sequestred, Plundered, Imprisoned in Newgate, when being let out, he was forced to flye.

*Michael* Bassishaw. D. *Gifford* Sequestred.

*Michael* Cornhil. 1. D. *Brough* Sequestred, Plundered, wife and children turn'd out of doores, His wife

2. M. *Weld* his Curate assaulted, beaten in the Church, and turned out.

*Dead with griefe.*

*Michael* Crooked-lane.

*Michael* Queene hithe. M. *Hill* Sequestred.

*Michael* Querne. M. *Lannes* Sequestred.

*Michael* Royall. M. *Proffor* Sequestred, and forc't to flye.

*Michael* Wood-street.

*Mildred* Bread-street. M. *Bradshaw* Sequestred.

*Mildred* Poultry. M. *Maden* Sequestred, and gone beyond sea.

*Nicholas* Acons. M. *Bennes* Sequestred.

*Nicholas* Coleaby. M. *Cibbald* Sequestred.

*Nicholas* Olaves. D. *Cheshire* molested, and forced to resigne.

*Olaves* Hart-street. M. *Haines* Sequestred.

*Olaves* Jewry. M. *Tuke* Sequestred, Plundered, and Imprisoned.

*Olaves* Silver-street. D. *Boofye* abused, and

*Pancras* Soperlane M. *Escop* Sequestred, Plundered,

*Dead with griefe.*



dred, forc't to flye, wife and children turn'd out of doores.

*Peters Cheap.* M. *Yorbier* Sequestred, and  
*Peters Cornhill.* D. *Fairfax* Sequestred,  
Plundred, Imprisoned in *Ely* house, and the  
ships, his wife and children turn'd out of  
doores.

*Peters Pauls-wharfe.* M. *Martbury* Seque-  
stred.

*Peters Poore.* D. *Holfworth* Sequestred, Plun-  
dred, Imprisoned in *Ely* house, then in the  
Tower.

*Stephens Cole-man-street.*

*Stephens Walbrooke.* D. *Howel* through vexa-  
tion forc't to forsake it, Sequestred of all,  
and fled.

*Divers since turn'd out.*

*Switbins.* M. *Owen* Sequestred.

*Thomas Apostle.* M. *Cooper* Sequestred, Plun-  
dred, sent Prisoner to Leeds Castle in Kent.

*Trinitie Parish.* M. *Harrison.*

*In the 97 Parishes within the walls, be-  
sides S. Pauls, outed 85.*

Dead  
with  
griefe.

Dead  
with  
griefe.  
Dead,  
16.

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## Parishes without the Walls.

*Andrew Holborne.* D. *Hacker* Sequestred.

*Bartholmew Great.* D. *Westfeld* abused in the  
streets, Sequestred, forc'd to fly, and  
*Bartholmew Lesse.*

*arides Parish.* M. *Palmer* Sequestred.

Bride-

Dead.

*Bridewell Precinct.* M. Brown turn'd out.  
*Botolph Aldersgate.* M. Booth sequestred.  
*Botolph Alsgate.* M. Swadlin sequestred, plun-  
 dred, imprisoned at Gresham College, and  
 Newgate, his wife and children turned out  
 of doores.

*Botolph Bishopsgate.* M. Rogers Sequestred.  
*Dunstons West.* D. Marsh Sequestred, and  
*George Southwarke.* M. Sequestred.  
*Giles Cripplegate.* 1. D. Fuller Sequestred,  
 Plundered, Imprisoned at Elly house.  
 2. M. Hutton his Curate, assaulted in the  
 Church, and Imprisoned.

Dead  
in re-  
mote  
parts.

*Olaves Southwark.* D. Turner Sequestred,  
 Plundered, fetcht up Prisoner with a Troope  
 of Souldiers, and after forc't to flye.

*Saviours Southwarke,*

*Sepulchres Parish.* M. Pigot the Lecturer  
 turn'd out.

*The Temple-Church.* D. Littleton forc't to flye,  
 and Sequestred.

*Thomas Southwark.* M. Spencer Sequestred  
 and Imprisoned.

*Trinitie Minories,*

*In the 16 Parishes without the walls;*  
*outed 14.*

Dead,  
2.

*In the 10 Out-Parishes.*

*Clement Danes.* D. Dukeison Sequestred, Plun-  
 dred, forc't to flye.

*Covent-Garden.* M. Hall Sequestred, and forc't  
 to flye.

*Giles in the Fields.* D. Heywood Sequestred,  
 Imprisoned in the Compter, Elly house, and  
 the

the Ships, forc't to flye, his wife and children  
turn'd out of doores.

*James* Clarkenwell.

*Katherine* Tower.

*Leonard* Shore-ditch. M. *Squire* Sequestred,  
Imprisoned in Gresham College, Newgate,  
and the Kings Bench, his wife and children  
Plundred, and turn'd out of doores.

*Martins* in the Fields. D. *Bray* Sequestred, Im-  
prisoned, Plundred, forc't to flye, and

*Mary* White-chappel. D. *Johnson* Sequestred.

*Magdalen* Bernondsey. D. *Park* Sequestred.

*Savoy*. 1. D. *Balanquel* Sequestred, Plundred,  
forc't to flye, and

2. M. *Fuller* forc't to flye.

*In the 10 Out-Parishes, outed 9.*

Dead  
in re-  
mote  
parts.

Dead  
in re-  
mote  
parts.  
Dead 2.

## In the adjacent Townes.

The Deane and all the Prebends of the Abby-  
Church *Westminster*, (but onely *Lambart*  
*Osbanston*) Sequestred.

*Margaret* Westminster. D. *Wimberly* Seque-  
stred.

*Limbeth*. D. *Featley* Sequestred, Plundred,  
Imprisoned, and

*Newington*. M. *Heath* Sequestred.

*Hackney*. M. *Moore* Sequestred.

*Reddriffe*.

*Islington*. Divers Ministers turned out.

*Stepney*. D. *Stampe* Sequestred, Plundred, and  
forc't to flye.

*In the adjacent Townes, besides these  
of the Abby-Church, and Isling-  
ton, outed 7.*

Dead a  
Fro-  
ner.

Dead 1.

The

The totall of the Ministers of London wkh- in the Bills of Mortalitie, (besides <i>Pauks</i> <i>and Westminster</i> ) turn'd out of their Livings by Sequestration and otherwise,	115.
Whereof Doctors in Divinitie, above	40.
And the most of them Plundered of their Goods, and their wives and children turned out of doores.	
Imprisoned in London, and the Ships, and in severall Gaoles and Castles in the Coun- trety.	30.
Fled to prevent Imprisonment.	25.
Dead in remote parts, and in Prison, and with griefe.	22.
About 40 Churches now void, having no con- stant Minister in them.	

*Vsq̃ue quo Domine ? Rev 6. 10.*

2 Chron. 13. 9.

*Have ye not cast out the Priests of the  
Lord, the sonnes of Aaron, and the  
Levites, and have made you Priests  
after the manner of the Nations of  
other Lands ? So that whosoever  
commeth to Consecrate himselfe with  
a young Bullock, and seven Rams, the  
same may be a Priest of no gods.*

2 Chron. 36. 16.

*But they mocked the messengers of God,  
and*

and despised his Words, and mis-  
used his Prophets, untill the wrath of  
the Lord rose against his people, till  
there was no remedy.

Luk. 6. 22, 23.

Blessed are you, when men shall hate you,  
and when they shall separate you,  
(as ~~unbelievers~~ <sup>unbelievers</sup> ~~shall~~ <sup>shall</sup> Sequester you)  
and shall reproach you, and cast out  
your name as evil (as ~~men~~ <sup>men</sup>, as Ma-  
lignant) for the Sonne of Mans sake.  
Rejoyce ye in that day, and leape for  
joy, for behold your reward is great  
in Heaven, for according to these  
things did their Fathers to the Pro-  
phets.

Phil. i. 28, 29.

*In nothing be ye terrified by your Adversaries; which to them is an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God. For unto you the grace is given in the behalfe of Christ, not onely to beleieve on him, but also to suffer for his sake.*

2 Tim. 4. 3.

For the time will be, when they will not  
endure wholesome Doctrine; but hu-  
ving

ving itching eares, shall heape to themselves Teachers according to their owne private lusts.

1 Pet. 4. 16, 17, 18.

If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not bee ashamed, but let him glorifie God in this behalfe. For the time is come, that judgement must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the Gospel of God? And if the just man be saved with difficultie, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appeare?

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The end.

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